

Oregon Bar Exam – February 2012

Critical applicant information packet



Oregon State
Board of
Bar Examiners

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OREGON BAR EXAMINATION

February 28 & 29, 2012

Monarch Hotel & Conference Center
12566 SE 93rd Avenue
Clackamas, OR 97015
1-800-492-8700
<http://www.monarchhotel.cc>

EXAMINATION SCHEDULES

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SCHEDULES FOR THE TWO EXAMINATION DAYS ARE DIFFERENT

TUESDAY – FEBRUARY 28TH

Essay Question and Multistate Performance Test (MPT) Portion of the Examination

7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	REGISTRATION – Signs in hotel lobby will direct applicants to appropriate registration areas. IMPORTANT – ALL APPLICANTS MUST BE SEATED BY 8:10 a.m. Laptop users are ENCOURAGED to arrive sooner to set-up their computers.
8:10 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Preliminary Exam Instructions, MPT and Essay Question Instructions, Test Distribution, and Collection of ID Numbers.
8:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Session 1 - Essay Questions 1 through 6
12:15 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Lunch break – It is recommended that all applicants be seated by 1:35 p.m.
1:45 p.m. – 1:55 p.m.	Afternoon Instructions and Test Distribution
1:55 p.m. – 5:10 p.m.	Session Two – Essay Questions 7 through 9 and the MPT

WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 29TH

Multistate Bar Examination

7:30a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	REGISTRATION – Applicants must sign-in both days of exam.
8:10 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.	Preliminary Instructions, Test Instructions, and Test Distribution
8:40 a.m. – 11:40 p.m.	AM Session of the Multistate Bar Examination
11:40 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch Break
1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Test Distribution and Instructions
1:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	PM Session of the Multistate Bar Examination

OREGON STATE BOARD OF BAR EXAMINERS

16037 SW Upper Boones Ferry Road, P.O. Box 231935, Tigard, Oregon 97281-1935
(503) 620-0222 or *inside Oregon* 1-800-452-8260, Ext. 310, 311, 316 and 419 • www.osbar.org

January 13, 2012

To: February 2012 Bar Exam Applicant
From: Jon Benson, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Oregon Bar Examination – February 28 and 29, 2012
LOCATION: Monarch Hotel & Conference Center
12566 SE 93rd Avenue
Clackamas, OR 97015
1-800-492-8700

For more details see: www.osbar.org/admissions

Note: All applicants must submit the certificate of graduation from their law school by **February 13, 2012** in order to sit for the exam. Rule 4.15(2).

****If we do not have your graduation certificate on file, the Admissions Department will contact you regarding this deadline¹.****

Laptop users: You should have received an e-mail with instructions on registering and downloading SoftTest. If you did not receive this e-mail, and you would like to use your laptop on the exam, contact our office immediately. **Laptop registration deadline is February 7, 2012.** Additional information on registering can be found at: www.ExamSoft.com/osbar

BAR EXAMINATION REGISTRATION:

All applicants must check-in at registration **BOTH DAYS** - Between 7:30 and 8:00 a.m.

(All applicants must be seated by 8:10 a.m. **BOTH DAYS**)

Laptop users are ENCOURAGED to arrive sooner to set up their computer.

VALID PHOTO ID IS REQUIRED AT TIME OF REGISTRATION²

Your applicant ID card with applicant number and seat number will be distributed to you when you register. **NO APPLICANT ID CARD OR TICKET WILL BE MAILED PRIOR TO THE EXAM.** Seating for the exam will be pre-assigned. You must use this applicant number throughout the entire exam. It is each applicant's responsibility to correctly record their applicant number on all exam components.

¹ Please do not contact our office to check on your graduation certificate. We will contact you, if we do not have your certificate.

² Photo ID must be government-issued, such as a driver's license or passport.

EXAM ROOM:

There will be different sections for applicants using laptops and applicants handwriting. However, everyone will be tested in the same ballroom.

Applicants must remain in their assigned seats for the duration of the exam.

TEST CENTER ENVIRONMENT:

Every effort is made to ensure a minimum of noise and other distractions during the examination. Nevertheless, there may be some extraneous noise beyond the control of the Board and staff. You should plan accordingly. Likewise, you may want to layer clothing to prepare for varying temperatures at the exam site.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS:

Bags of any kind, (except for a clear plastic bag) including but not limited to **backpacks, laptop bags, and purses, are NOT permitted within the testing center.** Arrangements to store belongings should be made in advance. If brought into the testing center, applicants will be required to remove them from the area and leave them at their own risk outside.

Applicants may bring unwrapped food and a beverage with a lid to the exam. All items are subject to search. All items should be quiet out of consideration for other applicants.

- **A CLEAR PLASTIC BAG FOR ALL PERSONAL BELONGINGS IS ALLOWED**
- **NO OTHER BAGS OF ANY KIND ALLOWED IN TESTING AREA**

Applicants may only bring their permitted personal items, i.e., medication, hygiene items, pens, food, and other necessities, into the examination area in **a clear plastic bag.**

A LAPTOP COMPUTER, BLANK USB DRIVE, AND WRISTWATCH WITHOUT AN ALARM ARE THE ONLY ELECTRONIC DEVICES ALLOWED IN TESTING AREA

If applicants are found with unauthorized items, such as cell phones, iPhones, PDAs, notes, study aids, head phones, or any other electronic devices, etc., in the examination room, they will receive a score of zero for that session of the bar examination; and possible additional sanctions the Board of Bar Examiners may impose. Any contraband item will also be seized.

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Any failure to comply with the exam instructions, and any other rules that may be announced at the exam, may result in disqualification of your exam.

General Information:

1. All applicants must take all parts of the exam.
2. Clocks will be visible in the exam rooms. A watch without an alarm is permitted.
3. Ear plugs may be worn to muffle noise. Headsets, ear phones, and earplugs connected in any way are not permitted.
4. No applicant shall possess a firearm, weapon, device, or hazardous substance capable of inflicting death or physical injury at the Bar Examination site. This rule is applicable to all applicants; including applicants having a concealed weapon permit.
5. You may leave your seat while the exam is in progress to use the restroom, but you may not return to your hotel room, vehicle, or leave the exam room. You may not discuss the exam with anyone while it is in progress.
6. No exam materials may be taken from the exam rooms while the exam is in progress.
7. Smoking is not permitted during the exam. You may smoke outside the building in the designated areas, when the exam is not in progress. You may smoke only during breaks.

EXAMINATION – GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. You **must** stop writing or typing when time is called after each session. Failure to stop will result in disqualification of your examination.
2. Essay Answers are limited to three pages of text per essay question for handwriters and 4,000 characters, including spaces, for laptop users.
3. Multistate Performance Test (MPT) answers are limited to eight pages of text for handwriters and 10,600 characters, including spaces, for laptop users.
4. Scratch paper will be provided for the MPT and each of the Essay segments. Also, you may write in the question booklet on the blank pages provided for that purpose, or on any page, including the covers. You must turn the scratch paper in at the conclusion of each segment, **even if you have not used it**. No scratch paper will be available for the MBE portion of the exam.
5. **HANDWRITERS:**

You are to provide your own pens for completing the essay and MPT answers. **USE BLACK OR BLUE INK. DO NOT USE PENCILS.**

WRITE LEGIBLY. If you choose to handwrite your exam, your writing must be legible. If the material cannot be read, credit for it cannot be given. The use of phonetic spelling and unorthodox abbreviations is discouraged. ***If your handwriting is poor, the Board strongly encourages you to use a laptop for the exam.***

Deletions are permitted. Any part of an answer deleted will not be read or considered by the grader.

6. **LAPTOP USERS:**

You are required to up-load your answers for the MPT and the essay portion of the examination by no later than 9:00 p.m. (PDT) on **Thursday, March 1, 2012**. This is an ABSOLUTE deadline.

After the examination, you will be required to access the Internet to upload your answers. Make certain your computer is capable of accessing the Internet. The Hotel features free Wi-Fi access.

If you would like to back up your answers and provide that backup to the Board of Bar Examiners, you may do so by USB (thumb) drive, which you provide. **USB drive backups must be surrendered to staff before leaving the examination room.**

Handwriters examination paper will be available for laptop users in the event of any equipment or electrical failure, or other unforeseen problem. Please bring black or blue ink pens for your use in the event handwriting becomes necessary.

NOTICE



Oregon State
Board of
Bar Examiners

CONTRABAND ITEMS PROHIBITED DURING THE OREGON BAR EXAM



- VIOLATORS WILL HAVE THEIR EXAM DISQUALIFIED AND WILL RECEIVE A **ZERO ON THE EXAM**
- CONTRABAND WILL BE SEIZED.
- ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS MAY BE IMPOSED

Prohibited items:

1. All electronic devices¹, including, but not limited to: Cell phones, iPods, PDAs, Blackberries, cameras, or any digital or analog recording devices.
2. All Bags, purses, backpacks, laptop bags, etc. The only exception is a small, clear plastic bag for food, pens, and personal/medical necessities.
3. Head phones (you may use foam or rubber ear plugs—without wires).
4. Notes or study aids.

¹ The only exceptions are: Your laptop computer (if registered for the exam), a blank USB drive, a wristwatch without an alarm