



**THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA
COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS/OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS**

**180 Howard Street • San Francisco, CA 94105-1639 • (415) 538-2300
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**ADMISSION TO PRACTICE LAW IN CALIFORNIA BY ATTORNEYS
ADMITTED IN JURISDICTIONS OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES**

The requirements for admission to practice law in California are contained in Title 4, Division 1 of the *Rules of the State Bar of California (Admissions Rules)*. The following is a summary of the requirements for attorneys admitted in jurisdictions outside the United States. For the specific requirements, refer to the *Admissions Rules*.

To be admitted to practice law in California, an applicant must comply with the requirements outlined in Chapter 2 of the *Admissions Rules*, which, in addition to passing the bar examination include: 1) receiving a positive moral character determination; 2) passage of the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination; and, 3) being in compliance with any California court ordered child or family support obligation.

All applicants for admission are required to provide a social security number pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 30 (California's tax enforcement provisions) and Family Code Section 17520 (Child Support Enforcement Program). An attorney applicant who does not have a social security number because he/she does not qualify for one, may request an exemption from the requirement of providing a social security number at the time they file a registration application with the Committee of Bar Examiners (Committee). More information regarding the social security number requirement and exemption are available online on the Admissions' portion of the State Bar's Web site at <http://admissions.calbar.ca.gov/>. Otherwise, there is no requirement of citizenship or residency.

Attorney applicants admitted in jurisdictions outside the United States may qualify to take the California Bar Examination by filing the appropriate applications and documentation, which include submission of a Certificate of Good Standing from the jurisdiction in which the applicant is admitted. All Certificates of Good Standing must be mailed to the Los Angeles office at:

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Attorney applicants admitted in jurisdictions outside the United States must take the General Bar Examination, which is of three days duration and consists of six essay questions, two Performance Test questions and the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE), which consists of 200 multiple-choice questions. Prior to filing a moral character determination or examination application, the application for attorney registration must be approved.

Foreign-educated attorney applicants must have obtained legal education and be admitted by the professional bar admissions regulation/licensing authorities in their admitting jurisdictions in order to register as attorney applicants. The Committee's Guidelines for this policy follow:

- 1.1 Foreign-educated attorney applicants must submit a Certificate of Admission or Certificate of Good Standing from the professional bar admissions regulation/attorney licensing authority in their jurisdiction.
- 1.2 In addition to submitting to the Office of Admissions the Certificate of Admission or Certificate of Good Standing, if legal education is not a requirement for admission in the jurisdiction, the applicant must also submit proof of legal education in the form of legal education transcripts evaluated by a credential evaluation service approved by the Committee.
- 1.3 The appropriate professional bar admission regulation/attorney licensing authority is determined by the Office of Admissions based on its research; however, if there is a disagreement, the applicant may petition the Committee by submitting appropriate documentation for consideration at least 6 months prior to the filing deadline for the bar examination the applicant wishes to take.

The California Bar Examination dates and deadlines are as follows:

<u>Examination</u>	<u>Applications Available</u>	<u>Timely filing Deadline</u>	<u>Final Filing Deadline</u>
February	October 1	November 1	January 15
July	March 1	April 1	June 15

For further information, please contact the Office of Admissions in either Los Angeles or San Francisco.