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# Feb & July 2018 FL Bar Exam

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## February and July 2018 Florida Bar Exam

We hope the following information helps you in your 2018 Florida Bar Exam study endeavors. If you have questions or comments, either use our

contact form or the comments section to communicate with us. Kind regards, and happy studying!

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**Feb 2018 FL Bar Exam**

The February 2018 Florida Bar Exam will be held on Tues and Wed, Feb 24th and Feb 25th. The clock is set for Monday, Feb 23rd, at 2359 hrs (11:59 pm) EST.

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WEEKS DAYS HOURS MINUTES SECONDS

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# I. General Information

## A. The Florida Board of Bar Examiners v. The Florida Bar

As a bar exam applicant and a soon-to-be licensed Florida attorney, it is a good idea to understand the difference between the Florida Board of Bar Examiners and The Florida Bar. Maybe you already know the difference. If so, great. Explain it to your peers and to others. There tends to be confusion on the worldwide web and among bar exam applicants regarding this seemingly mundane, yet important, difference, which is why we are taking the time to discuss it here.

The Florida Supreme Court has exclusive power to license and discipline Florida attorneys. [1] The Court performs its duties through two entities: The Florida Board of Bar Examiners and The Florida Bar. As an administrative

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agency of the Court, the Board is responsible for implementing the rules regulating an applicant's admission to The Florida Bar. [2] The Board has authority over an applicant's admission to The Florida Bar.

The Florida Bar has no direct authority over an applicant's admission. [3] The Bar is an organization that oversees unethical conduct of licensed attorneys—including the unlicensed practice of law. Once you become a licensed Florida attorney, you become a member of The Florida Bar.

Simply stated, as an applicant you answer to the Board; as a licensed attorney you answer to The Florida Bar. If you are interested in knowing the Board's authority after admittance, read [Rule 5-14](#).

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## B. When and Where is the February 2018 Exam?

**2018 FL BAR EXAM**  
**February 27-28 2017**  
Tuesday & Wednesday

The February 2018 Florida Bar Exam will be tested on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 27-28, 2018. Part A, the Florida portion, will be tested on Tuesday, February 27th. Part B, the MBE, will be tested on Wednesday, February 28th. The exam will be held at the [Tampa Convention Center](#), 333 South Franklin Street, Tampa, Florida. You can find detailed information such as arrival and exam session times on the [Florida Board of Bar Examiners website](#) ("Exam Information").

## C. When and Where is the July 2018 Exam?

**2018 FL BAR EXAM**  
**July 24-25, 2017**  
Tuesday & Wednesday

The July 2018 Florida Bar Exam will be tested on Tuesday and Wednesday, July 24-25, 2018, at the [Tampa Convention Center](#). Part A, the Florida portion, will be tested on Tuesday, July 24th. Part

### Workbooks

- [Florida Courts Flowchart](#)
- [Sample Questions Civil Procedure MBE](#)
- [Protected: Essay Writing Tips](#)
- [2017 Feb & July FL Bar Exam](#)
- [2015 Florida Bar Exam Subjects](#)

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B, the MBE, will be tested on Wednesday, July 25th.

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## II. Part A—The Florida Portion

### A. Purpose of the Florida Portion

Obviously, as an applicant, your purpose for taking the bar exam is to pass it and become a licensed Florida attorney. However, from a strategical stand point, have you considered the purpose of the exam as seen through the eyes of the examiners? We have, and we believe that understanding it from the examiners perspective is beneficial to understanding the exam in general. It allows an applicant to “get into the examiners’ heads,” so to speak.

According to the Florida Supreme Court, the purpose of the General Florida Bar Exam is threefold. First, the exam tests your “ability to reason logically.” Second, it tests your ability to “accurately analyze the problem presented.” And third, it tests your ability to “demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the fundamental principles of law and their application.” [4]

So when you’re studying for the bar exam, study like a lawyer and not like a student. Know as much about your opponent as is diligently possible. In this situation, your opponent is the bar exam. The more insight and understanding you have about the overall exam, and of course, the substantive law, the more confident you should feel when facing your opponent.

Taking the bar exam is very different from taking a law school exam. The bar exam is all-encompassing. You need to know a vast array of federal law subjects, including Florida law distinctions. Memorization alone is not enough to pass the exam, although mnemonics are certainly helpful.

As you are studying, just keep in mind the exam’s

- [MBE 2017 Real Property](#)
- [Essays Florida Bar Exam](#)
- [Answering Essay Questions](#)
- [FL Essay Writing Tips](#)
- [FL Essays 14-Year Graph](#)
- [FL Questions Answers 2003-2017](#)
- [FL Tested Subjects 2012-2017](#)
- [Fed Con Law Essay Rules](#)
- [IRAC Sample Essay](#)
- [Torts Essay Checklist](#)
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- [FL Bar Exam Review Videos](#)
- [FL Civil Procedure Flashcards](#)
- [FL Crim Pro MC Questions](#)
- [FL Corporations Notes](#)
- [FL Courts Flowcharts](#)
- [FL Dependency Law in a Nutshell](#)
- [FL Dependency Law Overview](#)

purpose. Be prepared to show the examiners that you: (1) have a thorough knowledge of the fundamentals of law; (2) can accurately analyze the questions presented; (3) know how to apply the law to the facts of the specific question; and (4) can logically reason to reach a conclusion. With this insight in mind, hopefully some semblance of stress about your opponent will be relieved.

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## **B. How is Part A Tested?**

Part A is comprised of two sessions—the Tuesday morning essay session and the Tuesday afternoon multiple-choice session. The morning session consists of three hours answering three essay questions. The afternoon session consists of three hours answering 100 multiple-choice questions. Part A tests your knowledge of both federal law and Florida law. When federal law differs from Florida law, be sure to answer all questions pursuant to Florida law. [5]

## **C. Time Allotment and Raw Points**

You are essentially allotted one-hour to answer each essay question. Each essay is worth 100 points for a total possible essay raw score of 300 points. As for the 100 multiple-choice questions, you are essentially allotted 1.8 minutes to answer each question. The total raw score available on the multiple-choice section is 90 points. This is because 10 of the questions are “experimental” and do not count toward your total score. The total raw points available on Part A are 390—300 points on the essay section and 90 points on the multiple-choice section. [6]

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## **D. What Subjects are Tested on the Florida Portion?**

As mandated by the Florida Supreme Court,

- FL Homestead Exemptions
- FL Juvenile Justice Overview
- FL Professional Responsibility
- FL Proposed Rule Changes
- FL Statutes & Rules
- Last Minute Exam Tips
- MBE Civil Pro MC Questions
- MBE Hearsay Videos
- MBE Constitutional Law Video
- MBE 4th Amendment Podcasts
- UCC 9 Notes (Concise)
- UCC 9 Notes (Long)
- UCC 9 Flowcharts
- Nationwide Exam Delays
- Articles & Encouragement
- Bar Exam Marathon
- Bar Exam Stupor Humor
- Don't Let Failure Defeat You
- FL Bar Exam Success Story
- Note of Encouragement
- Pass/Fail—Don't Rush it Away

“Part A consists of 6 one-hour segments. One segment includes the Florida Rules of Civil and Criminal Procedure and the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration 2.330, 2.420, 2.505 and 2.515. The remaining 5 segments, each of which includes no more than 3 subjects, are tested from the following subjects: (a) Florida constitutional law; (b) federal constitutional law; (c) business entities; (d) wills and administration of estates; (e) trusts; (f) real property; (g) evidence; (h) torts; (i) criminal law, constitutional criminal procedure, and juvenile delinquency; (j) contracts; (k) Articles 3 and 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code; (l) family law and dependency; (m) Chapter 4, Rules of Professional Conduct of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar; (n) Chapter 5, Rules Regulating Trust Accounts of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar; and (o) professionalism.” [7]

Notice that the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, Florida Rules of Criminal Procedure, and Florida Rules of Judicial Administration §§ 2.330, 2.420, 2.505, and 2.515 are required subjects on every bar exam. It is a good idea to know these three subjects because, rest-assured, they will be on the exam.

The tested format for the above required subjects varies at the discretion of the Florida Board of Bar Examiners. We have broken-down the subjects based on the general category of prior tested exams. For instance, we set forth which subjects are most commonly tested as essay questions and which ones are tested as multiple-choice questions. You will see that a few of the subjects are cross-overs, which means they might be tested on either, or both of, the essays or the multiple-choice questions (*e.g.*, professionalism [ethics]). It goes without saying, but just as a reminder, you must know the law in order to pass the exam!

## 1. Essay Subjects

- [Should I Retake the Bar Exam](#)
- [2016 Florida Bar Exam](#)
  - [Feb & July FL Bar Exam 2016](#)
  - [July 2016 Bar Exam Raw Scores](#)
  - [July 2016 FL Bar Exam Results](#)
  - [July 2016 Bar Exam Predictions](#)
  - [Feb 2016 FL Bar Exam Results](#)
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  - [Feb 2016 Bar Exam Predictions](#)
  - [Feb 2016 Bar Exam—Your Views](#)
- [2015 Florida Bar Exam](#)
  - [FL Bar Exam Feb & July 2015](#)
  - [July 2015 Raw Scores](#)
  - [July 2015 FL Bar Results](#)
  - [July 2015 Exam Predictions](#)
  - [July Exam Predictions Explained](#)
  - [July 2015 FL Bar Survey](#)
  - [Feb 2015 Raw Scores](#)
  - [Feb 2015 FL Exam Results](#)
  - [Feb 2015 Exam Predictions](#)

The number in parenthesis indicates the approximate number of times the examiners have tested that particular subject in essay format. The tested time period extends from July 2003 through July 2017. [8]

- a. Florida and Federal Constitutional Law (22)\*
- b. Professionalism [Ethics] (31)\*
- c. Real Property (13)
- d. Family Law and Dependency (16)\*
- e. Contracts (18)
- f. Torts (17)
- g. Trusts (10)\*
- h. UCC 3 Negotiable Instruments (3)\*
- i. UCC 9 Secured Transactions (3)\*
- j. Constitutional Criminal Procedure, Criminal Law, Juvenile Delinquency (2)

\* Subject was tested on the July 2017 exam

## 2. Multiple-Choice Subjects

As previously stated, there are three subjects that must be tested on every exam — the †Florida Rules of Civil and †Criminal Procedure and the †Florida Rules of Judicial Administration. The bar examiners have been generally testing these three subjects in multiple-choice format, along with two additional subjects from the following areas:

- a. Wills & Administration of Estates^\*
- b. Business Entities^
- c. Evidence^\*
- d. Professionalism [Ethics] (MC/Essay)
- e. Rules of Professional Conduct, Chapter 4 (MC/Essay)
- f. Rules Regulating Trust Accounts, Chapter 5 (MC/Essay)

† Required Subjects on every exam

^ Heavily and consistently tested in MC format

\* Subject was tested on the July 2017 exam

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- [New Subject MBE 2015](#)
- [2014 Florida Bar Exam](#)
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## III. Part B—The MBE

### A. Purpose of the MBE

According to the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE), “The purpose of the MBE is to assess the extent to which an examinee can apply fundamental legal principles and legal reasoning to analyze given fact patterns.” [9]

### B. When and How is Part B Tested?

Part B, the MBE, will be tested on Wednesday, February 28, 2018, and again on Wednesday, July 25, 2018, at the [Tampa Convention Center](#). The MBE takes six hours to complete and consists of 200 questions. The morning session contains 100 multiple-choice questions which shall be completed within three hours. The afternoon session also contains 100 multiple-choice questions which shall be completed within three hours.

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### C. What Subjects are Tested on the MBE?

The 2017 MBE brought changes to the Real Property portion of the exam (*see, e.g.,* [2017 MBE Real Property Changes](#)). It also brought with it changes to the number of scored versus the number of unscored questions on the exam.

In past years, the MBE consisted of 200 questions, only 190 of which were scored. However, as of 2017, the MBE consists of 200 multiple-choice questions, only 175 of which are scored. So now there are 25 unscored “pretest questions” as opposed to a mere 10 unscored “pretest questions.” [10]

In any event, according to the NCBE, the 175 scored questions will be evenly distributed from the following subjects:

- [Rodrigo Nathoo on Protected: July 2017 FL Bar Exam Results](#)
- [Aplus eBooks on Bar Exam Forum \(Page 2\)](#)
- [Aplus eBooks on Protected: July 2017 Questionnaire](#)
- [AJH on Protected: July 2017 Questionnaire](#)
- [Aplus eBooks on Protected: July 2017 FL Bar Exam Predictions](#)



1. Civil Procedure (25 Q)
2. Constitutional Law (25 Q)
3. Contracts (25 Q)
4. Criminal Law and Procedure (25 Q)
5. Evidence (25 Q)
6. Real Property (25 Q)
7. Torts (25 Q)

It might be worth your time to read the NCBE's article entitled, "[Preparing for the MBE](#)". It contains new and important MBE information.

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## **IV. Florida Bar Exam Passing Score Requirements**

To pass the General Florida Bar Exam, you "must attain a minimum scaled score of 136 points or above on both Parts A and B under the individual method, and an average scaled score of 136 or above under the overall method." [11]

When we were preparing our July 2013 Florida Bar Exam information, the Florida Board of Bar Examiners website stated that to pass Part A, an applicant must have an average essay score of at least 45 points and correctly answer at least 55% of the multiple-choice questions. (See [July 2013 Florida Bar Exam](#).)

However, for the February and July 2018 exam, the bar examiners simply state that "an average scaled score of 136 or better" is required to pass the exam ("Overall Method"). [12]

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## **V. Additional Resources**

The Florida Board of Bar Examiners published a "[Virtual Tour](#)" of the exam in hopes of making your 2018 bar

exam experience less stressful. They also published a "Study Guide" containing past essay questions and sample multiple-choice questions. As previously stated, the NCBE published a "2018 MBE Subject Matter Outline" which gives examinees valuable MBE information. We also posted a Florida court jurisdiction flowchart page in case you need it.

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2. [Dependency Law Nutshell](#)
3. [FL Bar Exam Review Videos](#)
4. [Fourth Amendment Podcasts](#)
5. [FL Bar Exam 14-Year Essay Graph/Chart](#)
6. [Questions and Selected Essay Answers 2003-2017](#)
7. [Note of Encouragement \(includes prominent people who failed the bar exam\)](#)

### **Article Sources:**

1. [Article V, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Florida \[back to text\]](#)
2. [See Rule 1-13, Rules of the Florida Supreme Court \[back to text\]](#)
3. [The Florida Bar \[back to text\]](#)
4. [Supra, Rule 4-21 \[back to text\]](#)
5. [Florida Board of Bar Examiners \("Exam Information"\) \[back to text\]](#)
6. [See, e.g., Raw Scores February 2013 \[back to text\]](#)
7. [Supra, Rule 4-22 \[back to text\]](#)
8. [See, e.g., Florida Bar Exam Essays 14-Year Graph \[back to text\]](#)
9. [2018 MBE Subject Matter Outline \[back to text\]](#)
10. [Supra, Rule 4-26.2 \[back to text\]](#)
11. [NCBE Website \[back to text\]](#)

12. [Supra, "Exam Information" \[back to text\]](#)

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