

## Bar Exam Snapshot: Virginia\*

<http://www.vbbe.state.va.us/>

### Bar exam

2010 exam dates/ locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tuesday, February 23 and Wednesday, February 24 at Norfolk Waterside Marriott</li> <li>- Tuesday, July 27 and Wednesday, July 28 in Roanoke at Civic Center</li> </ul>
Subject matter (MBE in <b>bold</b> )	<p>Agency, Conflict of Laws, <b>Constitutional Law</b>, <b>Contracts</b>, Corporations, Creditor's Rights, <b>Criminal Law and Procedure</b>, Domestic Relations, Equity, <b>Evidence</b>, Federal Practice and Procedure, Local Government Law, Partnerships, Personal Property, Professional Responsibility, <b>Real Property</b>, Sales, Suretyship, Taxation, <b>Torts</b>, Trusts, Uniform Commercial Code, Virginia Pleading/Practice/Procedure in law and equity (including appellate practice), and Wills and Estate Administration</p>
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tuesday = written portion               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nine essays (10 points each)</li> <li>- 20 short answers (1/2 point each)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Wednesday = MBE               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 200 total multiple choice questions (100 each administered in morning/afternoon)                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 33 questions in Contracts and Torts</li> <li>- 31 questions in Con Law, Criminal Law/Procedure, Evidence, and Real Property</li> </ul> </li> <li>- 190 graded questions, 10 experimental questions (indistinguishable)</li> <li>- 1.8 minutes per question</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Scoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- essay = 60%, MBE = 40%</li> <li>- All scores are scaled</li> <li>- 140 minimum passing score</li> </ul>
MPRE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minimum score = 85</li> <li>- Must achieve this score within the calendar year one passes bar or within two calendar years immediately preceding or following that year</li> </ul>
Pass %	<p>July 2008 = 85% first time takers, 80% all takers</p>
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Must sign pledge</li> <li>- Must write essays in ink</li> <li>- Cannot bring anything but pen/pencil into exam room</li> <li>- Must wear business suit!</li> </ul>

## Bar exam application

Contact info	<p>Virginia Board of Bar Examiners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2201 W. Broad Street, Suite 101, Richmond, VA 23220</li> <li>- 804.367.0412 (available 10:00 AM – noon, 2:00 – 4:00 PM)</li> <li>- Office hours: 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday – Friday</li> </ul>
Deadlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- December 15 for February exam, May 10 for July exam – RECEIVED DATES</li> <li>- NO LATE DEADLINES</li> <li>- Board will not confirm receipt of application over the phone</li> <li>- Registered or certified mail are only two methods of mailing authorized by statute, so if timely postmarked, acceptable after deadline</li> <li>- Other forms of mailing are not authorized, so not acceptable after deadline even if timely postmarked</li> <li>- Hand delivery ok – slide under door if office is closed</li> <li>- Applicants will receive written notice of receipt of application and application status approximately six weeks post-deadline</li> <li>- If want to confirm receipt of application prior to date above, use delivery confirmation or include self-addressed stamped envelope or postcard</li> </ul>
Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- \$275 exam fee in form of money order, cashier’s check, or certified check made payable to “Virginia Board of Bar Examiners”</li> <li>- \$175 - \$325 character investigation fee</li> </ul>
Forms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rules and application forms can be downloaded from website</li> <li>- Must print forms AND copy files onto floppy/ZIP disk or burn to CD (include disk with printed application)</li> <li>- Must be notarized</li> </ul>
Attachments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Before graduation, certificate indicating expectation of graduation (dated within 90 days of deadline)</li> <li>- Once graduated, certificate of graduation</li> <li>- Fingerprints</li> <li>- Two identical, unmounted, passport-style photos taken within 12 months</li> </ul>
Character and Fitness reqs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Must file completed questionnaire and pay character investigation fee</li> <li>- Must clear credit problems before licensure</li> <li>- Bankruptcy or felony conviction not absolute bar to admission but will be investigated</li> </ul>
Other	Laptop program for all interested, \$125 fee

## Post-bar exam

Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Results released late April for February exam, mid-late October for July exam</li> <li>- Passing applicants posted on webpage in alphabetical order at same time formal notice is mailed</li> <li>- Board discloses scores only if fail</li> </ul>
Course	Must take professionalism course conducted by Virginia State Bar within first year of admission to bar

**\* All state bar exam information is subject to change without notice; please verify with bar examiner’s office.**