

Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners
601 Commonwealth Ave., Suite 3600
P.O. Box 62535
Harrisburg, PA 17106-2535



Phone (717) 231-3350
Fax (717) 231-3351
www.pabarexam.org

DO NOT BRING THIS PACKET TO THE EXAMINATION SITE

**February 21 and 22, 2023
Pennsylvania Bar Examination**

Rules/Restrictions for Applicants

**IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT APPLICANTS REVIEW AND FOLLOW
THESE RULES AND RESTRICTIONS.**

An applicant who is found to have violated or attempted to violate any rule or restriction established by the Board related to taking the bar examination may be disqualified from the examination per PA Bar Admission Rule 207(b). Applicants will be automatically disqualified if they are found to be cheating, as described in PA Bar Admission Rule 207(a).

The Executive Director or her designated staff member will be the final authority on any issues regarding rules, restrictions, policies, procedures or seat assignments during the administration of the bar examination.

As an applicant, you agree that if you are approached by a representative of the Board of Law Examiners, you will answer the representative's questions and/or surrender any materials that the representative requests.

The Board and its staff have taken every measure to ensure a smooth exam administration. We thank you for taking the time to read all of the detailed instructions and documents that have been provided to you and for your cooperation in our effort to create an orderly, quiet, and secure test environment. Thank you.

(over)

GENERAL INFORMATION

A.) COVID PRECAUTIONS

Applicants must all comply with the Board procedures to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19 during the administration. The Board posts its COVID policy on its website at <https://www.pabarexam.org/COVID>. Applicants must self-monitor for COVID symptoms and exposure. If an applicant has tested positive and has been advised to isolate, or has been exposed and has been advised to quarantine by a health professional, the applicant is prohibited from coming to the exam site or sitting for the examination.

B) ARRIVAL

The Board is staggering the arrival of applicants. Applicants must arrive to the test site prior to the time printed on their ticket and will be admitted into the exam room at their designated entry time. To keep foot traffic moving, Applicants must have their ticket out and available for review upon entering the testing venue. Applicants may not bring coffee or breakfast to the test site, as they will not have time to linger, but will be required to take their belongings to the designated bag storage room upon arrival and then enter the exam room immediately thereafter.

C.) TESTING CONDITIONS

The Board of Law Examiners will do its best to provide appropriate testing conditions. However, problems may arise, out of our control, such as issues related to heating/cooling, lighting, noise from other users of the facility or health issues of other applicants. The Board cannot guarantee a noise or distraction-free examination. Applicants are encouraged to use the earplugs provided by the Board, and should, in all cases, continue testing unless directed otherwise by the Site Supervisor. Should you have concerns about the testing conditions, convey them to a proctor and ask that it be brought to the attention of Board staff. We will attempt to resolve the situation, if possible.

D.) COMFORT AND CONSIDERATION

The temperature in the examination room will be set to accommodate most people; however, everyone is comfortable at different temperatures. Therefore, dress accordingly (layers of clothing are recommended). Bulky clothing items will be inspected by board staff, and applicants may not wear their outdoor coats. In consideration of other applicants, it is required that body fragrances such as perfumes, after shaves, etc. not be worn during testing. Additionally, to avoid disruption of other applicants, please walk (DO NOT RUN) quietly to/from the restrooms and when leaving the examination room.

E.) PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Look for the designated bag storage area upon arrival. Applicants must leave all personal items that are not permitted into the exam room (computer bags, mobile phones, wallets/purses, etc.) in the bag storage area. Turn off your mobile phone before storing it in your bag. Please leave all valuables at home, in your car, or hotel room safe. The Board of Law Examiners is not responsible for lost/stolen or damaged personal items.

F.) LUNCH

Applicants are encouraged to bring a packed lunch. You must store it in the designated bag storage area.

G.) ITEMS PROVIDED BY THE BOARD

- (1) The Board will provide each applicant a set of earplugs on each day of testing. Applicants may not bring their own.
- (2) If needed, proctors will provide tissues, cough drops, and writing implements, upon request.
- (3) The Board will provide an assortment of feminine hygiene products in the restroom. Applicants with medical conditions or special requests related to this should contact the Board office.

APPLICANTS MUST:

- (1) Sit for both days and all 4 sessions of the bar examination in Pennsylvania, and make a good faith effort to answer each part of the examination. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.
- (2) Report to your assigned section and seat for all sessions on time. If you are late for any reason, you will not be permitted to make up the lost time.
- (3) Have your admission ticket and valid (not expired) government-issued photo identification (e.g. state driver's license, passport or military identification) visible during the examination.
- (4) Have black ballpoint or roller pens on Tuesday and sharpened soft lead (No.1 or No. 2) pencils on Wednesday (MBE). (Highlighters and pens are permitted on Tuesday only. Pencil sharpeners will NOT be available. Personal pencil sharpeners are also not permitted. Bring a few sharpened pencils.)
- (5) Wear soft-soled shoes or sneakers. Do not wear flip-flops, shoes or boots that can create noise and disturb other test takers when walking to and from the restroom.

APPLICANTS MAY HAVE IN THE EXAM ROOM:

- (1) A computer registered for Computer Based Testing (CBT), an external keyboard and mouse, and power cord.
- (2) A drink in a completely resealable, clear, plastic container (e.g. Aquafina water bottle). The sealed drink must be kept on the floor near the applicant and only retrieved when necessary. (Insulated coffee cups, glass or metal containers, styrofoam and paper cups are **not** permitted.)
- (3) Small, clear, plastic bag(s) (no larger than 7" x 8" quart-size) to hold permitted items. (Do not put your ticket in one of these.)
- (4) Cash, credit cards, and keys/faub (no wallets), provided they are in a small, clear, plastic bag upon entry into the exam room (not in pockets).
- (5) Individual tablets of medicine in a small, clear, plastic bag.
- (6) Tissues and feminine hygiene products.
- (7) A lumbar cushion.
- (8) Sanitizing wipes.

(over)

APPLICANTS MAY NOT HAVE:

- (1) Any items in the exam room other than those specifically permitted, including medicine bottles, eye drops, lotion, lip balm, food, candy, gum, mobile phones, headsets or headphones of any kind, or watches of any kind. **Additionally, your pockets must be empty.**
- (2) Any electronic, Bluetooth/Internet-capable devices in the examination room with the exception of the registered CBT computer & associated mouse/keyboard. This includes, but is not limited to: **fitness trackers**, smartwatches/glasses, media players, timers, e-cigarettes or vaping devices.
- (3) Any separate or detachable erasers, **mechanical pencils**, erasable ink pens, felt tip pens, white-out or liquid paper, individual hand-held pencil sharpeners, book holders or stands in the exam room.
- (4) Weapons of any kind.
- (5) Study materials.
- (6) Written material or scratch paper in the exam room. (Prohibited written material includes this information packet and its envelope; bring only your **ADMISSION TICKET**) On Tuesday, the Board will provide scratch paper booklets. Applicants may not write on the exam table surfaces.

APPLICANTS ARE PROHIBITED FROM:

- (1) Wearing outdoor coats, hats, hoods, head coverings, or anything that covers the ears, during the examination, except for religious reasons. Notify the board office in advance, regarding religious headwear. Scarves or headbands may not cover an applicant's ears.
- (2) Smoking or using any tobacco or tobacco substitute products in the examination rooms, lobby area, hallways and/or restrooms.
- (3) Leaving the examination room during the last 10 minutes of any session. You must remain seated and may not use the restroom during the last 10 minutes of the test session.
- (4) Removing any question book, answer book, answer sheet, or scratch paper from the examination room.
- (5) Looking at another applicant's test booklet, scratch paper or answer sheet.
- (6) Communicating with another applicant or external source during the exam or giving, receiving, or seeking assistance or information while taking the exam.
- (7) Using any device to share, exchange, or obtain information, including picture or image taking.
- (8) Using unauthorized aids in taking the exam.
- (9) Creating a disturbance.
- (10) Beginning the exam or writing any information relating to the exam prior to the instruction to begin testing or continuing to work on the exam after the instruction to stop testing.

QUICK REFERENCE

Some items may be accessed during the examination; some are permitted in the examination room, but may not be accessed during the examination. Others items are not permitted or only permitted with special permission.

<p><u>Permitted In Exam Room</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual tablets of medicine (in baggie) Tissues Pencils Highlighters (on Tuesday only) Pens (on Tuesday only) Feminine hygiene products Lumbar cushion Beverage in a resealable, clear, plastic bottle (access/store on floor only) Sanitizing wipes (store on floor under table) Eye-glass cases (store on floor under table) Cash/Credit cards/Keys (in baggie—NOT pockets) 	<p><u>Not Permitted In Exam Room</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watches or timers of any kind Hats/hoods Pencil sharpeners Medicine bottles, eye drops, lip balm, lotion White-Out or liquid paper Any paper other than Admission Ticket Separate or detachable erasers Mechanical pencils, felt tip pens, erasable ink pens Gum, candy or eating during the exam Mobile phones Headphones Books/Study materials Electronic or Bluetooth devices E-cigarettes, vaping devices, tobacco or tobacco substitute products Book holders or stands
<p><u>Medical Requests (requires prior approval)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical devices—(e.g. inhalers, diabetic equipment) Unwrapped food items 	<p><u>Not Permitted In Exam Room on Wednesday</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlighters Pens
<p><u>Inaccessible during testing/ Bag Storage Area</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storage bag Outdoor coat Wallet Lunch Extra face masks/hand sanitizer 	<p><u>Not Permitted</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weapons Study materials Smoking or using any tobacco or tobacco substitute products