



The State Bar *of California*

Blue Ribbon Commission Meeting

Full Commission Meeting On the Non-Exam Pathway

Blue Ribbon Commission, July 18, 2022

Multi-Jurisdictional Practice Licenses

Registered In-House Counsel

No Supervision
Program Reqs:
Must Work for Qualifying Institution
Cannot Hold Themselves out as Licensed Attorney
Must Reside in CA
Scope of Practice:
Provide Legal Service to Employer (Qualifying Institute)
Not Permitted to Make Court Appearances or to Provide Personal/ Individual Representation

Registered Legal Aid Attorney

Must be Supervised by CA attorney
Program Reqs:
Must Work for an Eligible Legal Aid Organization
Cannot practice for more than 5 years as RLAA
Not have taken & failed CBX within 5 years immediately preceding initial application

Registered Military Spouse Attorney

Must be Supervised by CA attorney
- Program Reqs:
- Cannot practice for more than 5 years as RMSA
- Not have taken & failed CBX within 5 years immediately preceding initial application
- Stricter Level of Supervision

Registered Foreign Legal Consultants

Supervision:
No Supervision
Program Reqs:
Cannot Work on CA Law
Limited to Practice Law of Home Jurisdiction





Exam Requirement for Out of State Attorneys

- ✓ Attorney must have practiced for at least 4 years
- ✓ Attorney qualifies to sit for the 1-day Attorney Exam



Exam Reqs for Foreign Educated Applicants

- ✓ Foreign degree of law must be evaluated by evaluation agency
- ✓ If applicant is determined by the evaluation agency to possess a foreign first degree in law, the applicant will require further legal education in order to qualify to sit for the 2-day exam
- ✓ Applicant will need to complete a US Master of Law (LLM degree) or one year of legal education in an LLM program (20 semester units)
- ✓ Foreign educated applicants that do not have a first degree of law, must complete their legal education requirements in the US by earning a JD at a Law School Accredited by the ABA or by the CBE, or by completing their legal education through the Law Office Study Program



Exam Requirements for Foreign Attorneys



Foreign law degree must be determined to be a first degree in law, that is equivalent to a US JD degree or that meets the educational requirements to be admitted in the country from which the applicant is coming from.



If applicant has been admitted in foreign country, eligible to sit for the 2-day CBX

Foreign Law Schools Graduates in Other Jurisdictions

- Thirty-five jurisdictions allow graduates of foreign law schools to sit for their bar exam
 - Of those, twenty require additional legal education in the US, if the applicant has not been licensed in their country of origin
 - Five require admission to another US jurisdiction in order to be licensed in their jurisdiction
- Nearly all jurisdictions specify that the law degree must be based in English Common Law
- Many require a determination of educational equivalency

Applicant Type

Twenty years of
applicant data, by
type

First-Time Exam Takers by Applicant Type, from Feb. 2000 to July 2021

Exam Year	CA Law Schools	OOS Law Schools	OOS Attorney	Foreign JD or Attorney	Law Office Study	Other	Total
2000	4,269	1,373	1,384	100	2	282	7,410
2001	4,183	1,430	1,400	116	1	210	7,340
2002	4,119	1,235	1,174	130	2	296	6,956
2003	4,239	1,259	1,191	126	4	295	7,114
2004	4,407	1,311	1,143	205	1	212	7,279
2005	4,747	1,544	1,052	210	2	75	7,630
2006	5,031	1,601	1,131	212		95	8,070
2007	4,889	1,703	1,149	220	4	83	8,048
2008	4,925	1,715	1,139	262	5	120	8,166
2009	4,898	1,659	1,020	305	2	138	8,022
2010	4,857	1,581	1,129	304	1	83	7,955
2011	4,934	1,539	1,102	294	2	84	7,955
2012	5,146	1,656	1,197	358	3	91	8,451
2013	5,228	1,631	1,190	406	6	64	8,525
2014	4,919	1,537	1,329	467	2	51	8,305
2015	4,606	1,467	1,258	539	1	26	7,897
2016	4,180	1,185	1,154	541	2	19	7,081
2017	4,042	1,248	1,237	674	6	17	7,224
2018	3,906	1,090	1,293	770	5	23	7,087
2019	3,837	980	1,091	742	6	10	6,666
2020	3,639	1,159	1,179	798	9	12	6,796
2021	3,807	1,152	918	822	9	7	6,715
Total	98,808	31,055	25,860	8,601	75	2,293	166,692



Applicant Type

Twenty years of applicant data, by type

