

# RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE FEBRUARY 2025 GEORGIA BAR EXAMINATION

## **Registration Verification**

The regular deadline to register for the February 2025 Bar Exam is at 4 p.m. on January 1, 2025, and the final registration deadline (with a \$500 late fee) is at 4 p.m. on January 15, 2025. Applicants who have not completed the registration process (including payment) by the final deadline will not be able to take the Bar Exam.

Admission tickets are not issued, but applicants who timely register for the February 2025 Bar Exam will receive a notification at the top of their homepage that they "have successfully registered for the February 2025 Bar Examination." Registered applicants will receive an email about laptop registration on January 7 and a message on their homepage with logistical information the week of February 2.

## **Laptop Registration**

Almost all applicants find that it is to their advantage to take the exam on a laptop. You can find the answers to frequently asked questions about laptop testing <a href="here">here</a>.

#### **Exam Dates**

The two-day Georgia Bar Exam will be administered on Tuesday, February 25 and Wednesday, February 26, 2025. The one-day Georgia Attorneys' Exam will be administered on Tuesday, February 25; applicants taking the Attorneys' Exam do not return on Wednesday to take the MBE.

## No Cell Phones, Watches, or Other Electronic Devices

You are prohibited from having a cell phone, watch, or any other electronic device (other than your registered laptop) in the exam room. Digital clocks with the official time will be displayed in the exam room. Oral notifications for standard-time applicants will be provided 45 minutes, 10 minutes, and 1 minute before time is called for each exam session.

## **Required Items**

- You must place an official photo ID on your table during each exam session. Acceptable
  forms of ID include a driver's license, passport, or other government-issued photo ID.
  The name on the ID must match the name on your application.
- Laptop computers on Tuesday: If you are taking the Exam on a laptop, you must bring
  your registered laptop and laptop power cord on Tuesday. You should also bring an
  extension cord if your power cord is shorter than the standard six feet. You will not have
  to rely on your battery; electrical connections will be supplied at each table. It is your

responsibility to ensure your laptop is in working order prior to the Exam. Applicants may use a mouse (wired or wireless) and mouse pad, but it is not recommended. If you want to use a mouse, you should practice with the mouse on a mock exam.

- **Black pens on Tuesday:** All applicants will need a black pen to sign their signature card. If you wish, you may write notes in your MPT booklet in the morning, and scratch paper is provided with the essay questions in the afternoon. If you are handwriting your answers, you will also use black pens to write your MPT and essay question answers.
- **Pencils on Wednesday:** Non-mechanical #2 pencils are required for the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE). Mechanical pencils are prohibited. The MBE is administered with paper answer sheets, and laptops are not allowed on Wednesday. You may bring a manual (not battery operated) pencil sharpener.

#### **Allowed Items**

- Highlighters (Tuesday only).
- Manual pencil sharpener (Wednesday only).
- Water in clear, unlabeled bottles.
- Clear plastic bag for laptop computer. Most applicants carry their laptop in their hands and do not need a bag.
- Clear plastic bag for personal items, such as wallet, cash, credit card, parking claim ticket, keys, personal hygiene items (including feminine hygiene items), and medications. The clear bag should not contain other items, such as jackets or sweaters.
- Up to two KN-95 or N-95 face masks and a mask clip/"ear protector."

The NCBE prohibits applicants from bringing their own ear plugs into the exam room, but foam ear plugs will be provided.

#### No Food or Drinks

The NCBE does not allow food or drinks (including gum and candy) other than water in the exam room unless an administrative accommodation has been pre-approved by the Office of Bar Admissions. Water must be in clear, unlabeled bottles.

#### **Prohibited Items**

Prohibited items must be placed in the black bins outside the exam room, and the Board of Bar Examiners and Office of Bar Admissions assume no liability for any damaged or missing items. If you have in your possession in the exam room any electronic device (other than your registered laptop) or any other prohibited items, you will be reported to the Board of Bar Examiners and the Board to Determine Fitness of Bar Applicants. Your device may be confiscated for an indefinite period of time and sent to the NCBE to verify that there is no exam information on the device.

#### The following items are NOT allowed inside the Exam Room:

Backpacks or bags of any kind, other than clear plastic bags for laptops and personal items

(as described above)

- Briefcases, laptop bags, suitcases, purses, and any bags other than clear plastic bags
- Clothing (or any item) with profanity
- Headphones or ear plugs (except as provided by the Board of Bar Examiners)
- Watches and clocks
- Electronic devices other than registered laptop/mouse (including cell phones, fitness trackers, cameras, calculators, recording devices, and headphones)
- Flip-flops or backless shoes
- Food or beverages other than water (unless an administrative accommodation has been pre-approved by the Board of Bar Examiners)
- Hats or coverings worn on the head, except religious apparel (unless an administrative accommodation has been pre-approved by the Board of Bar Examiners)
- Highlighters (prohibited on Wednesday only; allowed on Tuesday)
- Non-transparent laptop skins/covers
- Mechanical pencils
- Perfumes or colognes
- Paper or written materials
- Umbrellas (the venue will provide a place to leave umbrellas in the lobby)
- Weapons (which are also not allowed anywhere on the venue's property)
- White-Out/correcting fluid or tape
- External keyboards
- Any removable media, such as memory cards, USB devices, or other storage devices.

# **Clothing and Climate Control**

Casual, comfortable clothing is appropriate. You should consider layered clothing because some applicants find the exam room to be cool. Hooded sweatshirts are allowed, but you may not wear the hood over your head (pursuant to NCBE requirements). Coats, jackets, and other clothing will be checked for prohibited items.

Do not wear perfumes, colognes, or any other fragrant substance, as there may be applicants who have allergies aggravated by these scents. Wear quiet shoes with soft soles, as you may have to walk across the Exam Room to the restrooms during the Exam. Do not wear backless shoes, including flip-flops.

#### **Admission to the Exam Room**

- **Seating:** All seats are preassigned with a name card at each seat. You must sit in your assigned seat throughout the entire exam. Charts indicating the Row Number in which your seat is located will be posted in the lobby outside the exam room. Row numbers are posted on the front and back table of each row and on paddles held by the row monitors.
- Laptop Applicants (Tuesday): On Tuesday, you will be admitted to the exam room at 8:00
   a.m. All removable media must be removed from your laptop prior to entering the exam
   room. Upon admission, you should locate your seat, place your photo ID and clear plastic
   bag containing personal items on the table by your name card, and follow the Examplify

Instructions placed at your seat. Laptop Instructions will begin at 8:15 a.m. **Any Laptop Applicant arriving after 8:15 a.m. will not be admitted to the exam room until 8:55 a.m. and may be required to handwrite the MPT and Essay portions of the exam.** 

- Handwriting Applicants (Tuesday): On Tuesday, handwriting applicants will be admitted
  to the exam room at 8:55 a.m. Upon admission, they should locate their assigned seat and
  place their photo ID and clear plastic bag containing personal items on the table by their
  name card.
- All Applicants (Tuesday and Wednesday): For the morning sessions, there will be no admission to the exam room after 10:00 a.m. For the afternoon sessions, there will be no admission to the exam room after 2:30 p.m.
- All Applicants (Wednesday): On Wednesday, all Applicants will be admitted to the exam room at 9:00 a.m. and must be seated when Exam Instructions begin at 9:05 a.m.

#### **Anonymous Grading**

You must not write your name on any MPT or Essay testing materials or answers. Until the completion of grading, exam answers will be identifiable only by Applicant Number.

## **Composition of Exam and Exam Tips**

You can find information about the composition of the exam and exam tips here.

## **Nonstandard Testing Accommodations**

Except for applicants with double-time (who will test over four days), applicants with nonstandard testing accommodations will test over the same two days as standard-time applicants but for an extended period on each day.

# **Technical Support**

It is your responsibility to ensure that your laptop is dependable and that it is in working order prior to the exam. ExamSoft site engineers will provide limited technical support.

# **Uploading Answers**

You are required to upload your MPT and Essay answer files no later than noon on Thursday after the second day of the Bar Exam. You are strongly encouraged to upload as soon as possible after leaving the exam room on Tuesday afternoon.

# No Leaving the Exam Room

If you complete a portion of the Exam prior to the ending time for that session, you are prohibited from turning in your answers early or leaving the exam room until you are dismissed. Because others will be finishing their work, you should remain in your seat after the ten-minute warning is given.

## No Talking

You are prohibited from talking to other applicants during each exam session, including in the restrooms.

#### Violation of Rules

Once time is called, any applicant who continues to type or write may be disqualified from the Exam. Any applicant who violates any of the Rules and Instructions for the Bar Exam will be reported to the Board to Determine Fitness of Bar Applicants and the Board of Bar Examiners.

## **Inability to Complete the Exam**

If you decide to withdraw from the Exam after it has begun, you must report this decision to a member of the staff of the Office of Bar Admissions at the administration table in the exam room and complete a withdrawal form prior to leaving the exam room.

## **Oath of Applicant**

By taking the Georgia Bar Exam, you will be deemed to have sworn to or affirmed the following:

I solemnly swear or affirm that I have no previous information as to the contents of the questions upon which I have been examined and that I have not received directly or indirectly, from any source whatever, any assistance, but that I wrote the answer exclusively from my knowledge.

## **No Contacting Board Members**

Applicants are prohibited from contacting any member of the Board to Determine Fitness of Bar Applicants or any member of the Board of Bar Examiners. Any applicant communications should be sent to the Office of Bar Admissions at gabaradmissions@gasupreme.us, and our office will communicate this information to the appropriate Board.

#### **Notification of Results**

All Applicants will receive written notification of their Bar Exam results. We will announce the score release date on the <u>"Latest News" section of our website</u>, and we will not surprise applicants by releasing scores earlier than the announced date. The pass list will be posted on our website no later than 4:00 p.m. on the scheduled release date.

#### **Inclement Weather**

In the event of inclement weather, the Georgia Bar Exam will proceed as scheduled as long as the venue remains open, and we will notify applicants on our website if the venue is closed. If severe weather is predicted for the days of the Bar Exam, please plan accordingly. Late applicants will not be allowed to make up any time lost.

In the event of a power outage during the exam that requires the use of the venue's generator, all applicants may be required to handwrite the remainder of the MPT/Essay portion of the Bar Exam in the answer books that will be distributed by the Office of Bar Admissions.

# **Exam Schedule for Standard-Time Applicants**

TUESDAY  MPT ITEMS AND ESSAY QUESTIONS		WEDNESDAY MBE	
Laptop Applicants Admitted	8:00 am	Admission to Exam Room	9:00 am
Laptop Applicants Must Be Seated	8:10 am	Morning Instructions Begin	9:05 am
Laptop Set Up Instructions	8:15 am	MORNING SESSION	9:30 am – 12:30 pm
Handwriting Applicants Admitted	8:55 am		No Admission
Morning Instructions Begin	9:00 am		after 10:00 am
MORNING SESSION MPT Items 1 and 2 (no breaks between items)	9:30 am – 12:30 pm		
	No Admission after 10:00 am		
LUNCH (Laptops must remain in Exam Room)		LUNCH	
Readmission to Exam Room	1:40 pm	Readmission to Exam Room	1:40 pm
Afternoon Instructions Begin	1:50 pm	Afternoon Instructions Begin	1:45 pm
AFTERNOON SESSION Essay Questions 1-4	2:00–5:00 pm	AFTERNOON SESSION	2:00–5:00 pm
(no breaks between questions)	No Admission after 2:30 pm		No Admission after 2:30 pm
Deadline to Upload MPT and Essay Answer Files from Laptop: Thursday at Noon			

All posted times are Eastern Time. Oral notifications for standard-time applicants will be provided 45 minutes, 10 minutes, and 1 minute before time is called for each exam session.