

Advising Notes for the Bar Examination – Basics

The following information comes from the [Board of Law Examiners of Tennessee](#) and the [National Conference of Bar Examiners](#). While the information is believed to be correct, it should be used for general guidance only. Contact the Board of Law Examiners directly for authoritative information.

Applicants must follow a two-step process. First, they must file a notice of intent to take the bar examination by October 1 for the February exam and on March 1 for the July exam. Second, applicants must file bar applications by November 15 for the February exam and April 15 for the July exam. Late fees are assessed on notices and applications submitted after these dates but before the final deadlines of January 10 and June 10.

The Tennessee Bar exam, a two-day exam, consists of

- the six-hour [Multistate Bar Examination \(MBE\)](#), and
- twelve 30-minute Tennessee essay questions, and
- starting in February of 2012, the [Multistate Performance Examination \(MPE\)](#).

Copies of past Tennessee essay questions are available from the Board upon request.

The following subjects may be tested on the Tennessee bar exam:

- business organizations, including agency, partnerships, corporations, and LLCs
- civil procedure (Tennessee and federal)
- commercial transactions, consisting of Uniform Commercial Code Articles 1 (general provisions), 2 (sales), 3 (negotiable instruments), 6 (bulk transfers), and 9 (secured transactions)
- conflicts of law
- constitutional law (Tennessee and federal)
- contracts, including UCC Article 2 sales
- criminal law and procedure
- domestic relations or personal status (family law)
- evidence
- professional responsibility
- property, real and personal
- remedies and restitution
- torts
- wills and estates.

The courses at the College of Law that cover most, if not all, of these subject matter areas are:

Bar Subject Matter Area	Corresponding UT College of Law Course
Business organizations, including agency, partnerships, corporations, and LLCs.	Business Associations
Civil Procedure	Civil Procedure
Commercial Transactions	Contracts I and II, Secured Transactions, Negotiable Instruments
Conflicts of Law	Conflicts of Law
Constitutional Law	Constitutional Law
Contracts (inc. Article 2, Sales)	Contracts I and II
Criminal Law and Procedure	Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure
Domestic Relations and Personal Status	Family Law
Evidence	Evidence
Professional responsibility	Professional Responsibility
Property, real and personal	Property, Land Finance
Remedies and restitution	Remedies
Torts	Torts I and II
Wills and estates	Gratuitous Transfers

Students are encouraged to take courses that will allow them to learn many of the bar subjects even if they do not plan to practice in those areas of law. Although a good many of them can be mastered for purposes of the bar examination during a summer bar review course of study, many are complex and can be daunting for the uninitiated student. **Students are strongly advised to consult with the Records Office and faculty members regarding course selection and sequencing.**