

# Testing Q&A

**Q: In order to become a lawyer, what are the major tests I have to pass beyond the ACT/SAT for college?**

**A:** The answer is usually three: The LSAT, the MPRE, and the bar. Of course, you'll also have to take and pass school-administered finals and midterms. The *Comprehensive Guide to Bar Admission Requirements* offers a brief overview of all 50 states' licensing requirements (see [www.abanet.org/legaled/publications/compguide/compguide.html](http://www.abanet.org/legaled/publications/compguide/compguide.html)).

**Q: What is the LSAT?**

**A:** The Law School Admission Test (LSAT). Required for admission to ABA-approved law schools, the test is administered four times a year. The Law School Admissions Council website notes that the half-day test "provides a standard measure of acquired reading and verbal reasoning skills that law schools can use as one of several factors in assessing applicants."

**Q: What is the MPRE?**

**A:** The Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination. The two-hour, 60 question, multiple-choice examination is offered three times annually. According to the National Conference of Bar Examiners website, the MPRE "measure[s] the examinee's knowledge and understanding of established standards related to a lawyer's professional conduct. Only three states do not require it. See [www.ncbex.org](http://www.ncbex.org) for more.

**Q: What is the bar exam?**

**A:** The bar exam is administered twice a year by each state and has varying components. Generally stretching over a period of two or three days, most bar exams include three multistate components and a specialized piece dealing with state law. The three are Multistate Bar Examination (MBE), Multistate Essay Examination (MEE), and Multistate Performance Test (MPT). Please speak directly to the state bar examiner of the state in which you want to practice for bar examination specifics (see [www.abanet.org/legaled/baradmissions/barcont.html](http://www.abanet.org/legaled/baradmissions/barcont.html) for a state-by-state listing).

See [www.lsac.org](http://www.lsac.org), [www.ncbex.org](http://www.ncbex.org), and [www.abanet.org/legaled](http://www.abanet.org/legaled) for more details.



ABA Career Resource Center Pre-Law Toolkit: [www.abanet.org/careercounsel/prelaw.html](http://www.abanet.org/careercounsel/prelaw.html)  
For more on Pre-Law Initiatives, please email [careers@abanet.org](mailto:careers@abanet.org) or call 312.988.6215.

