An attorney who has been admitted by examination to the highest court of another United States jurisdiction may be eligible to take the one-day Attorneys’ Examination in Georgia.

The filing of an Application for Certification of Fitness and subsequent issuance of such certification by the Board to Determine Fitness of Bar Applicants is prerequisite to becoming eligible to sit for the Attorneys’ Examination in Georgia.

THE ATTORNEYS’ EXAMINATION

The Attorneys’ Examination is composed of the Essay portion of the Georgia Bar Examination and the Multistate Performance Test. It does not include the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE).

An examination score of 135 shall be required to pass the Attorneys' Examination. Georgia does not transfer MBE scores from any other jurisdiction. Applicants who do well on multiple-choice testing might consider taking the Georgia Two-Day Examination which includes the MBE in order to increase their total score.

Applicants for the Attorneys’ Examination are also required to pass the separately administered Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) with a scaled score of 75 or greater.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

A person who meets the following requirements may apply to the Board of Bar Examiners to be admitted to the Attorneys’ Examination:

1. Must have been awarded an undergraduate degree (BA, BS, BBA or their equivalent) by a college or university which has been accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA);

   An applicant who has been awarded an undergraduate degree (BA, BS, BBA or their equivalent) by an institution of higher learning which has not been recognized by CHEA should read Part B, Section 4(a)(2) of the Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law in Georgia (Rules).

2. Must have been awarded the first professional degree in law (JD or LLB) by a law school approved by the American Bar Association;
An applicant who has graduated from a law school which was approved by the Georgia Board of Bar Examiners but not by the American Bar Association should read Part B, Section 4(b)(2) of the Rules.

3. Is not now and never has been admitted to the practice of law in Georgia but who has been admitted by examination to membership in the Bar of the highest court of another United States jurisdiction prior to the date of taking the Attorneys' Examination in Georgia and who is currently a member in good standing thereof;

A Letter of Good Standing is required from each jurisdiction in which you are admitted to the practice of law even if you are currently inactive in that jurisdiction.

A record of your Disciplinary History is also required from each jurisdiction in which you have ever been admitted to the practice of law even if you have never been disciplined.

The Letter of Good Standing and Disciplinary History Letter must be CURRENT and not dated earlier than 60 days prior to the submission of your Character and Fitness Application to the Office of Bar Admissions. You will be required keep these documents current.

4. Must receive Certification of Fitness to Practice Law from the Board to Determine Fitness of Bar Applicants;

5. Must have never been denied Certification of Fitness to Practice Law in Georgia and has not been allowed to withdraw an Application for Certification of Fitness to Practice Law in lieu of denial of Certification of Fitness to Practice Law;

6. Must have never taken and failed the Georgia Bar Examination or the Georgia Attorneys’ Examination.

FEE(S)

Your filing fee may be paid on-line by credit card (VISA or MasterCard) or you may pay your filing fees by mailing a money order or cashier’s check made payable to the Office of Bar Admissions.

Application for Certification of Fitness to Practice Law - $900
Late Fee (if applicable) - $400

FEES MAY BE COMBINED IN ONE MONEY ORDER OR CASHIER’S CHECK.

Your Fitness Application will be assigned to an Analyst and processed in order of the date of receipt by the Office of Bar Admissions. Your Analyst is the individual who actually processes your application and who should be contacted with any specific questions regarding the processing.

DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION OF CERTIFICATION OF FITNESS TO PRACTICE LAW TO SIT FOR THE ATTORNEYS’ EXAMINATION

For consideration for the February Bar Examination: no later than the first Wednesday of the preceding July.

Attorneys’ Examination March 2019
For consideration for the July Bar Examination: no later than the first Wednesday of the preceding December.

For the late filing deadlines and fees, please refer to Part A, Section 4(b) of the Rules.

**PROCESSING OF THE FITNESS APPLICATION**

From the time a Fitness Application is assigned to an Analyst, the processing *generally* takes from eight to twelve weeks.

Part A, Section 6(a) of the Rules requires that prior to issuing Certification of Fitness to Practice Law, “the [Fitness] Board shall make such investigation as it deems necessary into [an applicant’s] character, reputation and background.”

**NOTE:** Of particular interest to the Fitness Board is whether applicants have dealt honestly and responsibly with their creditors. The Board has issued a Policy Statement Regarding Character and Fitness Reviews which addresses financial responsibility as well as other significant fitness issues.

**Amendments to your Fitness Application**

Please keep in mind that your Fitness Application must be amended within **thirty (30) days** of any occurrence which would change your answer to any question on your application.

If, at any time during the investigation process, the Fitness Board needs additional information or documentation, you will be notified, specifying the missing information or documentation.

When the investigation is completed, your file will be presented to the Board to Determine Fitness of Bar Applicants at one of its monthly meetings. The Board will review and consider the information gathered during the investigation. The Board’s decision will be posted to Admission Documents section of your User Home Page.