

Tallahassee Democrat.

Results released for February bar exam in Florida: Which schools made the grade?

Breakdown of February 2024 Florida bar exam results, first time takers

LAW SCHOOL	FIRST-TIME TEST TAKERS	THOSE WHO PASSED	PASSAGE RATE
Florida International University College of Law (Miami)	23	19	82.6
St. Thomas University College of Law (Miami Gardens)	25	18	72
Stetson University College of Law (Gulfport)	26	18	69.2
University of Florida College of Law (Gainesville)	19	12	63.2
Nova Southeastern University College of Law (Davie)	31	16	51.6
Barry University School of Law (Orlando)	45	22	48.9
Cooley Law School (Riverview)	23	11	47.8
Florida A&M University College of Law (Orlando)	17	8	47.1
University of Miami School of Law (Coral Gables)	37	15	40.5
Florida State University College of Law (Tallahassee)	20	8	40
Ave Maria School of Law (Naples)	6	1	16.7
Florida Coastal School of Law (Jacksonville, now closed)	2	0	0

Source: Florida Board of Bar Examiners

By JAMES L. ROSICA, TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT
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Of the 593 people who took Florida's February bar examination for the first time, 334 passed, or roughly 56%, according to a Monday announcement from the Florida Board of Bar Examiners. That's about the same as last February's exam, when almost 55% passed, or 371 of 678, records show.

Florida offers its bar exam, as do most states, twice a year, in February and July. A greater number of test takers, many of whom have just graduated from law school in May, sit for the summer administration of the exam.

For instance, there were 2,163 first-timers last July in Florida, with close to 72% passing.

This February, of Florida's 12 accredited law schools, Florida International University College of Law had the highest pass rate at 82.6%.

Technically, the lowest was Florida Coastal School of Law: Neither of its two graduates who took the exam passed. Because of accreditation and financial problems, that school shut down in 2021.

In Florida, the state's Supreme Court ultimately decides who becomes an attorney. "Passing the bar," as it's known, is but one step; applicants also must pass clear an in-depth background check, usually referred to as character and fitness review.

Florida's exam – again, like many states – is given over two days, with one day consisting of written essays and another devoted to a six-hour, 200 multiple-choice question test known as the Multistate Bar Examination.

All applicants have to pass a separate legal ethics test, the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination.

Other first-time test takers this February include those who are already practicing law in another state (65.7%, or 157 of 239) or who graduated from an out-of-state law school (36.3%, or 29 of 80).