

Bar Company Questions and Answers

BARBRI

1. Briefly describe your approach to the lectures and practice exams. What distinguishes your approach from the approach taken by other bar preparation companies?

The BARBRI faculty are experts of the law, engaging and deeply mindful of the task at hand. No other bar review faculty is better qualified. Lectures are available in a classroom or online in your online Personal Study Plan and are segmented by topic. BARBRI students also benefit from frequent assessment. MBE practice test results are compared weekly to BARBRI students nationwide, the largest, most statistically valid group of bar exam takers, giving you percentile ranking by topic. Our Simulated MBE with Pass Predictor, compares your results with BARBRI students nationwide and is your best predictor of bar exam success.

2. Briefly describe the extent to which you provide personalized feedback to students on practice exams, noting how many exam answers and performance tests you critique, how much feedback is provided, and your criteria for hiring graders.

BARBRI students begin with our exclusive Essay Architect – an online progressive essay writing training tool with immediate feedback. Essay Architect will help you critically read, enhance your speed and construct winning answers. With Essay Architect, you won't waste countless hours developing basic skills. You'll be ready to submit well written exams for grading. Afterwards, you'll also receive personalized feedback. With Essay Architect, there's no need for countless essays. BARBRI students submit 3 essays and 1 performance test for grading, with the option of submitted additional exams. Graders are licensed in each state and are thoroughly screened, trained and assessed.

3. Briefly describe the methods by which you permit students who take your course to self-assess.

BARBRI Essay, MBE and Performance Test online and written materials contain sample and explanatory answers written by our experienced subject matter experts so that you can self-assess and reinforce your learning. The Essay volume also contains a subject testing and cross-over frequency chart, approach checklists and a grading rubric, which will allow you to grade your exam and assess your weaknesses. Your BARBRI Personal Study Plan also contains assessments after each subject to help you identify and remediate your weaknesses.

4. How and where are lectures delivered? Do you offer live lectures, video lectures, online lectures or a combination?

With BARBRI, you have a choice. Our lectures are available in live, live-streaming and video formats in classroom locations throughout California and nationwide, including our live location at UC Hastings. They are also available online and via mobile device for those with busy work or commute schedules.

5. How much structure/flexibility is built into the study schedule you provide to students?

With BARBRI, you will be guided by an easy-to-use, online Personal Study Plan (PSP). It is your daily to-do list during the BARBRI Bar Review course. It continually monitors your progress and automatically recommends assignments aligned to your unique areas of need. Lectures, outlines, practice questions and workshops build over time to create a highly effective structure of bar prep. The PSP also organizes regular, personal and overdue assignments for easy access. For added convenience, the PSP is available in advance of the course commencement so that students may work ahead.

6. What is the source for your practice questions?

BARBRI essay exams are drawn from past bar exams and included in our Essay Testing volume, along with the exam date and year. We utilize both released MBE questions from the NCBE, and those drafted by our own MBE experts. Only BARBRI has studied every single MBE since it debuted in 1972. As the MBE portion of the bar exam has changed so have our practice questions. We continually review, edit and revised them to accurately reflect the most current MBE format.

7. What are the start and end dates of your course?

The July course typically begins the fourth week of May, just before Memorial Day weekend. The February course begins the third week of December, just before the Christmas holiday. At BARBRI, you'll also have access to our data-driven Early Start Program, proven to increase your chances of passing the exam.

8. What is the cost of your course? What services and materials are included in that price?

Our regular tuition price is \$3,595. However, students who take advantage of our Early Decision Promotion (through Oct 1) save \$1,000 and pay only \$2,595. Students entering into Public Interest positions can save additional money with our public interest price. See you BARBRI student rep for our current promotion.

9. What are the consequences to a student who signs up with you but subsequently changes her mind about taking your course?

Students who take advantage of our Early Decision Promotion, may cancel within five business days of their enrollment date for a full refund, provided they have not had access to our online bar review content, including our Early Start Program. Those cancelling after five business days will lose their non-refundable deposit (\$250) and pay a cancellation fee according to the following chart (also available on the back of our enrollment application). Students who enroll for our Regular Decision tuition (\$3,595) may cancel within five business days of their enrollment date for a full refund, provided they have not had access to our online bar review content. Those cancelling after five business days will lose their non-refundable deposit (\$250), but will not pay a cancellation fee.

Cancellation Fee:

Mar. 1 or Later (Summer Course); Nov. 1 or Later (Winter Course) \$1,500

Feb. 1-28 (Summer Course); Oct. 1-31 (Winter Course) \$ 1,000

Jan. 1-31 (Summer Course); Sep. 1-30 (Winter Course) \$750

Before Jan. 1 (Summer Course) Before Sep. 1 (Winter Course) \$500

10. Do you offer an early-bird course and, if so, do you charge for it? Is it open only to persons registered for the full review course?

Our Early Start Program is included in the cost of the course. It is available to any student who enrolls in our course with a \$250 down payment. The Early Start Program covers the most testable MBE topics and gives students access to more than 100 hours of lectures, practice questions (MBE and Essay), an MBE diagnostic exam, and our exclusive BARRBI AMP and Essay Architect online programs.

11. Do you offer any guarantee regarding repetition of the course without charge or at a discounted rate, or any other type of guarantee, if a student does not pass the bar?

If you take a BARBRI bar review course for the first time for a particular state and you do not pass that state's bar exam or do not sit for that state's exam, you may repeat the same course online once for the same state the next time a course is offered without paying additional tuition.

12. What accommodations do you offer for students with disabilities?

BARBRI complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and provides appropriate auxiliary aids and services to students with disabilities to ensure effective communication. - See more at: <http://www.barbri.com/ada-accommodations>.

Kaplan

1. Briefly describe your approach to the lectures and practice exams. What distinguishes your approach from the approach taken by other bar preparation companies?

Kaplan provides the most live lecture locations with both Live in Class (at Hastings) and Live at Home options (anywhere with internet connection). We are the only company to allow students to ask the professors questions and participating in professor polling (at home or in class). Professors ask students questions after every 15/20 minutes, to gauge students' understand and if they need further review. Kaplan's On Demand course (our prerecorded course) is included with Live courses. In addition to a midterm MBE, Kaplan is the only company to hold a full length simulated practice exam before the actual exam, which is essential to get out the nerves and practice endurance and timing.

2. Briefly describe the extent to which you provide personalized feedback to students on practice exams, noting how many exam answers and performance tests you critique, how much feedback is provided, and your criteria for hiring graders.

Kaplan is the only company to offer unlimited and unconditional essay and performance test (PT) grading - no additional steps required. A full page of analysis is provided for every essay graded. The grader explains the issues hit, those missed, whether the student wrote in a lawyer like manner, whether the analysis was thorough enough, and provides an overall score. Essay graders are certified to ensure that they grade just as the bar examiners in that state. Each student will have a grader follow them throughout the course, providing specialized feedback that will hone their writing to make them the most successful on the exam. Immediate feedback is provided through sample answers. MBE answers provide an analysis of the correct answers and why the wrong answers are incorrect.

3. Briefly describe the methods by which you permit students who take your course to self-assess.

Kaplan's personalized pass program constantly tracks student's progress and performance and shows students how well they are doing in each subject and, importantly, the subtopics within those subjects. Kaplan actually adjusts each student's syllabus to their specific strengths and weaknesses and what is heavily tested on the exam to ensure they are studying in the most efficient and effective manner. In addition, if a student is weaker in a certain subject Kaplan will suggest certain practice exercises the student can do to become stronger.

4. How and where are lectures delivered? Do you offer live lectures, video lectures, online lectures or a combination?

Kaplan provides the most live lecture locations with both Live in Class (at Hastings) and Live at Home options (anywhere with internet connection). We are the only company to allow students to ask professors questions and participate in professor polling (at home or in class). Professors ask students questions after every 15/20 minutes to gauge students' understand and if they need further review. We also offer our On Demand course (our prerecorded course), included with our Live courses. The On Demand lectures are available during the entire

program so a student can skip ahead or go back, making the course very flexible.

5. How much structure/flexibility is built into the study schedule you provide to students?

Kaplan's personalized pass programs provides students with the flexibility to create a course that best suits their study needs. Kaplan creates a very targeted syllabus individualized for each student, focusing on their specific weaknesses and what is heavily tested on the exam, allowing students to study in a very efficient and effective manner. Accordingly, students are given a reasonable amount of work that they are able to successfully complete. Plus, Kaplan students can choose Live in Class, Live at Home or On Demand lectures. Students have access to the entire course from day one and can skip ahead or go back. Little work is assigned on weekends which allows students to catch up or get ahead.

6. What is the source for your practice questions?

For the essays and performance tests Kaplan has banks of essays and performance tests that are the actual questions from previous exams. There is no limit on the amount of essays and performance tests that a student can turn in for grading.

For the MBE questions, Kaplan uses its experience and its acquisition of PMBR to develop questions. PMBR has 35 years of experience preparing students for the MBE and is widely regarded as the most effective practice. Kaplan has the most MBE practice questions and they have consistently been regarded as "exam-like."

7. What are the start and end dates of your course?

Kaplan gives full access to the course about 90 days before the exam (earlier than other companies) and the course starts approximately 65 days before the start of the exam. Classes end about 2 weeks before the exam. Kaplan is the only company to offer a full length simulated final exam two weeks before the actual exam. Then based on each student's specific strengths and weaknesses Kaplan develops a final study plan setting out exactly where the student should be focusing their time leading all the way up to the date of the exam.

8. What is the cost of your course? What services and materials are included in that price?

The cost of Kaplan's Live courses are \$2,999 and the On-Demand course is \$2,299. However, during the year special discounts and offers will be made that can bring down the price. There is an additional \$275 refundable book deposit that is returned to a student when he/she has returned the books after the course. The \$25 shipping fee is nonrefundable. For this price the student will get the entire Kaplan course which includes over 4,000 practice MBE questions, unlimited and unconditional essay and performance test grading, a practice midterm, a full length simulated final exam, a final study plan and a personalized pass program that is specifically tailored to each student's strengths and weaknesses so that they can study in the most efficient and effective way possible.

9. What are the consequences to a student who signs up with you but subsequently changes her mind about taking your course?

There are no consequences for a student who enrolls with Kaplan but then later decides not to take the course, except that the student will not receive his/her \$250 deposit back.

10. Do you offer an early-bird course and, if so, do you charge for it? Is it open only to persons registered for the full review course?

Immediately upon enrolling in Kaplan's course a student gains access to our Early Access Program. This includes 7-Days of Foundation Sessions, the MBE Diagnostic Test, over 2,000 questions from Kaplan's MBE QBank, access to Kaplan's Flex Flashcards and access to the information contained in our Test Analysis/Essay Frequency. There is no additional charge for this Early Access Program. The Early Access Program is only available to those enrolled in the course.

Kaplan grants full access to the course 90 days before the exam. In addition to the Early Access Program, the full course includes the full syllabus, Strength & Weakness Guide, Essay Bank, Performance Tests, Course Materials, and Essay Grading.

11. Do you offer any guarantee regarding repetition of the course without charge or at a discounted rate, or any other type of guarantee, if a student does not pass the bar?

Kaplan is the only company to offer a money back guaranty. If a student does not pass on the first time they can get their money back.* They can also choose to take the course again for free.*

12. What accommodations do you offer for students with disabilities?

Kaplan Test Prep is committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities have full and equal access to our services as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and implementing regulations. Kaplan Test Prep will not, on the basis of disability, deny a student access to or otherwise limit a student's access to or participation in its program.

Themis

1. Briefly describe your approach to the lectures and practice exams. What distinguishes your approach from the approach taken by other bar preparation companies?

Lectures are in 20 minute chapters, vs. other business models of 4 hour lectures, in a classroom setting. Chapters are followed by short quizzes, another crucial part of our learning method, which reinforces materials learned. Research shows that students have limited cognitive resources and learn most effectively when those cognitive resources are protected and focused (Paas, Renkl, & Sweller, 2003). This allows for more memory retention and ability to process content. The 15-20 minute chapters work to avoid overwhelming students. Practice exam lectures and workshops are in this same format, providing guidance on the best approach to completing exams.

2. Briefly describe the extent to which you provide personalized feedback to students on practice exams, noting how many exam answers and performance tests you critique, how much feedback is provided, and your criteria for hiring graders.

A Dedicated Personal Grader provides students with detailed instruction on improving their writing. This is unique because Graders are able to avoid generic/canned feedback in their critiques, as they have followed each students' progress throughout the course. Comments are very thorough. Themis offers Unlimited Essay grading from exams within our materials, and auto assigns for turn-in 7 essays, and 1 PT, throughout the course to encourage students to submit exams. Graders are licensed CA Attorneys who have been trained in our grading process. They receive guidelines and rubrics for each essay to assist with the grading of each exam.

3. Briefly describe the methods by which you permit students who take your course to self-assess.

A course progress feature, along with a suggested pace reminder helps students stay on track for completing the course. Students complete practice exams, for self-study or submission, which provides them with diagnostics and feedback regarding areas they need to focus on for improvement. Students are able to track the areas on the MBE where they are struggling, based on these diagnostics which provide a breakdown by question topic/subtopic. All Essays and PT's in the portal have Sample Answers available for review after submission of the exam is complete, so students can compare their answers for self-assessment.

4. How and where are lectures delivered? Do you offer live lectures, video lectures, online lectures or a combination?

Lectures are delivered online through the Themis portal or through the iPad or iPhone. The complete course is accessible for Early Start in November for the February exam, and in March for the July exam period. Students can also choose to begin their studies on the recommended start date by following the structured Themis study schedule. The lectures can be downloaded through the App for students who are mobile. It allows for multiple avenues of study for non-traditional students

5. How much structure/flexibility is built into the study schedule you provide to students?

Our course works with students individual time concerns in mind. Students can choose between Directed Study or Flex study, and can toggle back and forth based on their ability to complete daily assignments. Directed Study is a strict daily calendar meant to be followed closely, as you cannot move on to the next task until the previous one is completed. In Flex Mode students can complete assignments out of order or move ahead if they have more time. The schedule automatically shifts assignments to lighter days, if a student does not complete an assignment or misses a day of studies.

6. What is the source for your practice questions?

All of our Essay and PT questions are previously released from the State Bar of California. Themis currently has a bank of over 3000 MBE questions. Hundreds of these questions are licensed from past bar exams. The remaining questions in the Themis bank are drafted by the Themis editorial team to simulate actual MBE questions in style, length, difficulty and frequency of issues tested on the bar exam.

7. What are the start and end dates of your course?

Themis is designed to be an 8-10 week course. The course opens early in March for the July exam, and November for the February exam. The recommended start date for students who do not wish to begin their studies early is typically the end of May for the July exam, or the end of December for the February exam. Lectures should be completed roughly 2 weeks before the exam, allowing for the last few weeks to review and hone in on the materials.

8. What is the cost of your course? What services and materials are included in that price?

Themis' list price for the general course is \$1995, plus \$30 shipping or \$1295, plus shipping for students who qualify for our Public Interest rate. We offer many organizational discounts, and promotions starting as low as \$1345 when students sign up early. The cost includes access to the complete course online, graded exams and simulated exams. There are 4 hardcopy books for Black Letter Law, Multiple Choice exams, and Performance Tests, as well as a book of lecture handouts to be completed with the lectures.

9. What are the consequences to a student who signs up with you but subsequently changes her mind about taking your course?

Cancellation is allowed any time before access to course. Refund eligibility is within five days receipt of printed materials, or within five days of availability of any online bar review content, whichever comes first. If less than 5% of course is completed, a student may receive a partial refund. Once books are received or online bar content is available, Themis will issue a refund of paid tuition funds, less shipping and \$100 per day up to the expiration of five day limit. No refunds are given after the five-day period, or once more than 5% of course content is completed.

10. Do you offer an early-bird course and, if so, do you charge for it? Is it open only to persons registered for the full review course?

Our Early Start course is available to all paid in full students, at no extra charge. It is open to only enrolled students.

11. Do you offer any guarantee regarding repetition of the course without charge or at a discounted rate, or any other type of guarantee, if a student does not pass the bar?

We offer a free repeat of the course for the next administration of the exam in the same jurisdiction. To be eligible, student (1) must have taken a full bar review course; (2) must have been a first-time Themis taker*; (3) provide documentation that they sat for and were unsuccessful on the exam; and (4) must sit for next scheduled bar exam immediately following the course in the same jurisdiction. *Students receiving the free repeat do NOT receive new books. If a student requests a new set of materials, the cost will be \$200 + shipping fees (standard Themis charges).

12. What accommodations do you offer for students with disabilities?

Themis Bar Review, LLC (“Themis”) complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (“ADA”), including the provision of appropriate auxiliary aids and services to students with disabilities to ensure effective communication. Students are encouraged to contact us as early as possible to verify that we will meet their specific need

