



Republic of the Philippines  
Supreme Court  
Manila

*Office of the Bar Confidant*

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BAR EXAMINATIONS  
FOR NEW APPLICANTS  
(ETEEAP and FOREIGN LAW GRADUATES)**

All applicants for the Bar Examinations must file a verified Petition in the form prescribed by the Supreme Court. Any alteration, revision or deletion in any of the provisions therein is strictly prohibited and may be a ground for disqualification in taking the bar examinations.

Petition to Take the 2021 Bar Examinations may be downloaded from the Supreme Court website [www.sc.judiciary.gov.ph](http://www.sc.judiciary.gov.ph) and at the Online Application System (OAS).

In addition to the said verified Petition, applicants must also submit the following documents, in their ORIGINAL copies, unless otherwise provided:

**A. NEW APPLICANTS (WITHOUT CASES)**

**1) Birth Certificate** issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)

- In cases where the PSA copy is not legible, applicant must, in addition to the non-legible PSA copy, attach his/ her legible Birth Certificate issued by the Local Civil Registrar (LCR).
- In cases where the applicant has no record of birth with the PSA, he/ she must, in the meantime, submit his/ her Birth Certificate issued by the LCR. Applicant will be given until 31 January of the following year within which to submit the PSA copy of his/ her Birth Certificate.
- In cases where the applicant has no record of birth with the PSA and the LCR, he/ she must, in the meantime, submit his/ her:
  - a. Negative Results Certification (NCR) issued by the PSA; and
  - b. Affidavit for Delayed Registration executed by the applicant's father, mother or guardian explaining the reason/s therefor.Applicant will be given until 31 January of the following year within which to submit the PSA copy of his/ her Birth Certificate.
- In cases where there are erroneous entries in the Birth Certificate, applicant must submit his/ her corrected Birth Certificate issued by the PSA.
- For applicants born abroad, he/ she must submit his/ her:
  - a. **Foreign Birth Certificate**  
In cases where the foreign Birth Certificate is not written in English, applicant must submit an official English translation duly notarized and authenticated in the country of birth; and
  - b. **Report of Birth** issued by the PSA
- For applicants who acquired Philippine citizenship through naturalization or other means, he/ she must submit original copies of his/ her:
  - a. **Birth Certificate issued by the PSA or Foreign Birth Certificate**, whichever is applicable; and
  - b. **Other pertinent documents** relating to his/ her acquisition of Philippine citizenship.

**2) Marriage Contract** issued by the PSA or LCR – for Female Married Applicants only

(Revised as of February 2021)

- 3) **Testimonial of Good Moral Character** executed by two (2) different members of the Philippine Bar who are not related to the applicant by consanguinity or affinity within the fourth civil degree
- 4) **Official Pre-Law Degree Transcript of Records (TOR)** [Original Copy or Certified True Copy by the Law School/ University where Applicant Graduated From]
  - In cases where the Rizal course is integrated with another subject/s, applicant must submit a certification from his/ her school/ university to this effect.
  - In cases where the TOR is not written in English, applicant must submit, in addition to said TOR, an official English translation by the issuing school/ university.
  - **For graduates under the Expanded Tertiary Education Equivalency and Accreditation Program (ETEEAP)**, he/ she must also submit a Certification issued by the School Registrar stating that he/ she earned his/ her bachelor's degree under the ETEEAP.
- 5) **Official Law Degree Transcript of Records (TOR) indicating the Date of Graduation**
  - **For Foreign Law Graduates**, he/ she must also submit the following documents [*per Bar Matter No. 1153 (Re: Letter of Atty. Estelito P. Mendoza Proposing Reforms in the Bar Examinations Through Amendments to Rule 138 of the Rules of Court)*]:
    - a. Completion of all courses leading to the degree of Bachelor of Laws or its equivalent degree;
    - b. Recognition or accreditation of the law school by the proper authority; and
    - c. Completion of all fourth year subjects in the Bachelor of Laws academic program in a law school duly recognized by the Philippine Government.
- 6) Notarized **Certification** issued by the School Registrar and duly noted by the Law Dean attesting that the applicant graduated from a four (4) year law course and that his/ her name is included in the **LEB Certification** [per Resolution No. 2012-06 by the Legal Education Board (LEB)]
- 7) **Certificate of No Derogatory Record (CNDR)** duly signed by the Law Dean
- 8) Un-retouched **photo** (1 ½ x 1 ½) in white background with name IMPRINTED thereon (in the format: Surname, Given Name, Middle Initial) taken within the six (6) months prior to submission (to be attached in the Petition)

**B. NEW APPLICANTS (WITH CASE/S)**

In addition to the above-enumerated requirements, applicant must also submit:

**1) PENDING CASE/S**

- In cases where the applicant has case/s, of whatever nature pending before any jurisdiction, filed against him/ her, he/ she must submit:
  - a. Complaint/ Information [Original or certified true copy of the court, prosecutor's office or agency concerned]; and
  - b. Certification as to the pendency and status of the case.

**2) DECIDED CASE/S**

- In cases where the applicant has case/s, of whatever nature decided before any jurisdiction, filed against him/ her, he/ she must submit:
  - a. Judgment/ Decision/ Order/ Resolution, whichever is applicable [Original or certified true copy of the court, prosecutor's office or agency concerned];
  - b. Entry of Judgment/ Certificate of Finality, whichever is applicable;
  - c. Clearance from the court, prosecutor's office or agency concerned.