



ADOPTION LAW CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION SPECIFICATIONS



I. Purpose of Examination

The Adoption Law Certification Examination consists of a combination of essay, short answer, and multiple-choice questions. The exam is intended to test whether an applicant possesses the knowledge, skills, abilities, ethics, and judgments that are common to specialists in adoption law and is also intended to be a valid and reliable measurement to justify the representation of special competence and professionalism that distinguishes a “Florida Bar Board Certified Lawyer.”

II. Examination Content

Topics that may be covered on the adoption examination include:

A. Core Areas (80% of exam content):

1. Chapter 63 of the Florida Statutes – “Florida Adoption Act”
2. Attorney/Client Communication/Relationship
3. Disclosure
4. Notice
5. Placement/Petition for Adoption
6. Consent & Revocation
7. Termination of Parental Rights
8. Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children
9. Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)
10. Adoption Related Expenses
11. Jurisdiction/Venue/Choice of Law
12. Adoption Entity, Party and Third-Party Misconduct
13. Ethics

B. Sub-core Areas (20% of exam content):

1. Servicemembers Civil Relief Act
2. Juvenile Dependency/Termination of Parental Rights/Intervention
3. Alternative Dispute Resolution
4. Adoption Subsidy/Special Needs Adoption
5. Advertising
6. Surrendered Infants/Safe Haven
7. Pre-Planned Adoption
8. Open Adoption/Post Placement Communication Agreement
9. Intercountry Adoption/Hague Eligibility

Examinees will be tested on law that was in effect on December 31st.

The exam will consist of thirty multiple-choice questions worth 1 point each, twenty-five short answer questions worth 2 points each and four essays worth 30 points each.