

BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA | LICENSE TO PRACTICE LAW

# How to Obtain AIBE CoP Certificate

Certificate of Practice | Apply, Download & Collect — Complete Guide

## Within 3 Yrs

of Provisional  
Enrollment

## AIBESCOPE

Digital CoP  
App

## SBC Office

Physical CoP  
Collection

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## What Is the AIBE Certificate of Practice (CoP)?

The **Certificate of Practice (CoP)** is a license issued by the **Bar Council of India (BCI)** that authorises a law graduate to practice law in Indian courts. It was introduced in **2009–2010** and made mandatory for all newly enrolled advocates who wish to practice after clearing the **All India Bar Examination (AIBE)**.

Without a valid CoP, an advocate — even one who is provisionally enrolled with a State Bar Council — **cannot legally appear or practice in any Indian court**. It is mandatory for all law graduates who completed their degree from the **2009–10 academic session onwards**.

<b>Issued By</b>	Bar Council of India (BCI)	<b>Mandatory Since</b>	2009–2010 Academic Session
<b>Eligibility</b>	Must clear AIBE exam	<b>Deadline to Clear</b>	Within 2 Years of Enrollment
<b>Issuing Authority</b>	State Bar Council (SBC)	<b>Digital Copy App</b>	AIBESCOPE (Mobile App)
<b>Physical CoP Wait Time</b>	3 – 5 Months after Result	<b>Validity</b>	Lifetime (unless cancelled)

**Important:** Candidates must clear AIBE within **two years of their provisional enrollment** with the State Bar Council. If they fail to qualify within this window, they must renew their enrollment and reappear in the next AIBE session. There is **no limit on the number of attempts** — candidates may keep appearing until they secure the minimum qualifying marks.

## The Complete Journey: Enrollment to CoP

Obtaining the CoP is the final step of a longer journey that begins right after law school. Here is the complete sequence every law graduate must follow:

Step 1	<b>Complete LL.B. Degree</b> Finish your 3-year or 5-year LL.B. programme from a BCI-recognised law college/university.
Step 2	<b>Provisional Enrollment with State Bar Council</b> Enroll with the State Bar Council (SBC) of the state where you wish to practice. This can be done online in some states or by visiting the SBC office in person. Required documents typically include LL.B. degree, mark sheets, ID proof, photographs, and an enrollment fee.
Step 3	<b>Appear for AIBE</b> Once provisionally enrolled, register and appear for the All India Bar Examination (AIBE) — conducted twice a year by the BCI. You must clear AIBE within 2 years of provisional enrollment.
Step 4	<b>Clear the Qualifying Marks</b> Score at least <b>45% (General/OBC)</b> or <b>40% (SC/ST/PWD)</b> to qualify. There is no negative marking and no limit on the number of attempts.
Step 5	<b>Apply for Certificate of Practice (CoP)</b> After the result is declared, qualified candidates apply for the CoP — either through the AIBE portal or directly with their State Bar Council, depending on the process notified for that AIBE edition.
Step 6	<b>Collect the Physical CoP</b> The BCI dispatches CoPs to respective State Bar Councils, typically <b>3 to 5 months</b> after the result. Candidates collect the physical, valid certificate from their SBC office after document verification.

## How to Download the Digital CoP via AIBESCOPE

The Bar Council of India launched the **AIBESCOPE** mobile application in 2021 to allow candidates who have cleared AIBE to view and download a **digital/draft copy** of their CoP. This is primarily meant for **verification and correction purposes** — it is NOT a substitute for the physical certificate.

### 1 Download the AIBESCOPE App

Search for "AIBE" on the Google Play Store, or use the direct link provided by BCI in the official notification.

### 2 Log In with Credentials

Log in using your **AIBE Roll Number** and **Date of Birth** (or enrollment number, depending on the version).

### 3 Locate the CoP Status Section

Look for the "Certificate of Practice Status" or similar option within the app's main menu.

### 4 View the Digital CoP

Once available, you can view your draft CoP showing your name, father's name, enrollment number, and AIBE qualifying details.

### 5 Check for Errors & Request Corrections

If you spot any discrepancy (in name, father's name, or enrollment number), use the in-app correction option and attach your enrollment certificate as supporting proof before the correction deadline.

**Critical Notice from BCI:** The Bar Council of India has officially clarified that the digital/draft CoP shown on the AIBESCOPE app is **NOT a valid or printable document**. It exists solely so candidates can verify their details and request corrections before the physical CoP is printed and dispatched. **This online copy cannot be used to practice law in any Indian court.** Only the physical certificate issued by your State Bar Council holds legal validity.

## How to Collect the Physical CoP from State Bar Council

The physical, legally-valid CoP is issued by the BCI and distributed through respective **State Bar Councils (SBCs)**. Since the **Advocates Act, 1961** grants State Bar Councils the right to frame their own enrollment rules, the exact process may vary slightly by state. The general procedure is as follows:

### 01 BCI Dispatches CoP to SBC

After processing results, the BCI prints and dispatches Certificates of Practice to the respective State Bar Councils — usually **3 to 5 months** after the AIBE result is declared.

### 02 Procure the Application Form

Obtain the CoP application form from your State Bar Council's official website or by visiting their office in person.

### 03 Fill the Application Form

Accurately fill in your personal details, academic qualifications, and AIBE qualifying details (roll number, result, enrollment number).

### 04 Attach Self-Attested Documents

Attach self-attested copies of your AIBE result/rank card, State Bar Council Enrollment Certificate, valid photo ID (Aadhaar/PAN/Voter ID), and recent passport-size photographs.

### 05 Pay the Prescribed Fee

Pay the fee as notified by your respective State Bar Council. Fees vary significantly across states — always check the latest fee schedule on your SBC's official website.

### 06 Submit & Verification

Submit the complete package to the SBC office. The SBC verifies all documents and information provided before processing your CoP issuance.

### 07 Collect the Physical CoP

Once verified, you can collect the physical CoP in person from your SBC office. Some State Bar Councils may also dispatch it by speed post to your registered address.

## Documents Required for CoP Application

While exact document requirements can vary by State Bar Council, the following is the standard checklist for a CoP application:

#	Document	Purpose / Notes
1	AIBE Result / Rank Card	Proof that you have successfully cleared the AIBE exam
2	State Bar Council Enrollment Certificate	Proof of provisional/final enrollment as an advocate
3	LL.B. Degree Certificate	Proof of completion of your law degree
4	All Semester Mark Sheets	Academic record from your law college/university
5	Attendance Certificate	From your law college, as required by some SBCs
6	Valid Photo ID Proof	Aadhaar Card, PAN Card, Voter ID, Passport, or Driving License
7	Recent Passport-Size Photographs	Typically 2–4 copies, as specified by the SBC
8	Prescribed Application Fee	Amount varies by State Bar Council

*Note: Always verify the latest document checklist and fee schedule on your respective State Bar Council's official website, as requirements can change and vary between states.*

## Why the CoP Matters – Rules & Benefits

### Mandatory for Court Practice

An advocate **cannot legally practice** in any Indian court — district, High Court, or otherwise — without holding a valid Certificate of Practice.

### Applies to All Post-2009 Graduates

The CoP requirement applies to all law graduates who completed their degree from the **2009–10 academic session onwards**.

### No Restriction on AIBE Attempts

The BCI places **no limit** on the number of attempts a candidate can make to clear AIBE — you may reappear as many times as needed.

### Practice Years Count Only After CoP

For purposes like judiciary eligibility (which often requires a minimum number of years of practice), your years of practice are **officially recognised only after you receive your CoP** — enrollment alone is not sufficient.

### Required to Argue Before Supreme Court

While CoP allows you to practice generally, appearing before the **Supreme Court** additionally requires clearing the **AOR (Advocate-on-Record) exam**.

### Lifetime Validity (Subject to Conduct)

Once issued, the CoP remains valid for the advocate's professional lifetime, unless suspended or cancelled due to professional misconduct under Bar Council disciplinary rules.

## Minimum Qualifying Marks for AIBE

Category	Minimum Qualifying %
General / OBC	<b>45% (45 out of 100 marks)</b>
SC / ST / PWD (Persons with Disability)	<b>40% (40 out of 100 marks)</b>

*Note: Exact cut-off marks may be revised slightly per AIBE edition based on difficulty level and statistical normalisation. Always check the official result notification for the precise qualifying marks of your AIBE attempt.*

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### Q. Can I get a soft copy of my AIBE CoP on my phone?

A. Yes, you can view a digital/draft copy on the AIBESCOPE app for reference and correction purposes. However, this online copy **does not hold any legal validity** and cannot be used to practice law.

### Q. When can I enroll with a State Bar Council?

A. You can enroll in the State Bar Council immediately after clearing your B.A. LL.B. or LL.B. examination.

### Q. What is the minimum percentage required to clear AIBE?

A. The minimum qualifying percentage is **45% for General and OBC** category candidates, and **40% for SC/ST/PWD** category candidates. There is no negative marking.

### Q. Can I practice in the Supreme Court after clearing AIBE?

A. No. To practice specifically before the Supreme Court of India, you additionally need to clear the **AOR (Advocate-on-Record)** examination.

### Q. How long does it take to receive the physical CoP after results?

A. Typically, the Bar Council of India issues and dispatches the physical CoP **3 to 5 months** after the AIBE result is declared.

### Q. What happens if I don't clear AIBE within 2 years of enrollment?

A. You will need to **renew your provisional enrollment** with the State Bar Council and reappear in the next available AIBE session.

### Q. Is there a limit on the number of AIBE attempts?

A. No. The BCI has placed **no restriction** on the number of attempts — candidates can keep appearing until they secure the minimum qualifying marks.

### Q. Can I submit a CoP application offline if the SBC requires it?

A. Yes. While some State Bar Councils allow online submission via the AIBE portal, others require physical form submission at their office — this varies by state under the Advocates Act, 1961.

### Stay Updated with Shiksha.com

For the latest updates on AIBE result, CoP release notifications, AIBESCOPE app guidance, and State Bar Council processes — visit [shiksha.com/law/aibe-exam](https://shiksha.com/law/aibe-exam). Shiksha.com is India's No.1 education platform, your trusted guide for all law exam and career resources.