

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 16, 2023

Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners Clarifies Plans for July 2026 Bar Exam

The Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners (Board), with the approval of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, announces that the Board is studying the NextGen bar examination, but will not implement the exam in July 2026.

The National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) has been engaged in a multi-year process to develop the next version of the Uniform Bar Exam (UBE), and announced earlier this year that the new version, known as the NextGen Bar Exam, will be available for the first time in July 2026. NextGen will replace the current version of the UBE, but NCBE has stated that for the first three administrations (July 2026, February 2027, and July 2027), the current version also will remain an option.

Pennsylvania will not be administering the NextGen exam when that exam first becomes available in July 2026. The Board and Court will continue to study the NextGen exam as the NCBE continues to release information about the exam itself and the administration process. Further announcements will be issued to update stakeholders about implementation of NextGen when that information is available.