



The NextGen Uniform Bar Exam (UBE)

The NextGen UBE, developed and administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE), is designed to assess a comprehensive range of essential lawyering skills. It focuses on a carefully curated set of fundamental legal concepts and principles that are crucial for modern legal practice.

Currently in development, the NextGen UBE launches in select U.S. jurisdictions in July 2026.

Format + Time Allocation

The NextGen UBE is nine hours long and will take place over a day and a half, with two three-hour sessions on day one and one three-hour session on day two. Each jurisdiction may choose to include state specific law component on day two or a separate day at their choosing.

The **summer exam** takes place on the **last consecutive Tuesday and Wednesday in July**, and the **winter exam** takes place on the **last consecutive Tuesday and Wednesday in February**.

Day 1:

- Three-hour question set
- Lunch break
- Three-hour question set

Day 2:

- Three-hour question set
- Lunch break (if applicable)
- Jurisdictions' local law component (if applicable)

Question Types

The NextGen UBE will include three question formats: stand-alone multiple-choice, integrated question sets, and performance tasks.

- **Multiple-Choice Questions:** Approximately 40% of the exam will focus on stand-alone multiple-choice questions. These will feature four to six answer options, with one or more correct responses.
- **Integrated Question Sets:** Approximately 25% of the exam time will be spent on integrated question sets, which blend multiple-choice questions with short-answer responses.
- **Performance Tasks:** Approximately 33% of the exam time will be devoted to longer performance tasks. Performance tasks pose a question or series of questions about a single client matter.

Scoring

The NextGen UBE will feature a variety of question formats (of which, sample questions can be reviewed on the NCBE website). Machine-scored items, such as multiple-choice questions, will be evaluated by the NCBE, while bar examiners in each jurisdiction will continue to grade the constructed-response questions.

These changes are significant enough to necessitate the introduction of a new scoring scale. As a result, jurisdictions will need to establish new passing scores, which have yet to be determined.

Scoring Portability

The NextGen UBE will offer portable scores for jurisdictions that choose to recognize them. However, jurisdictions can still administer the exam without being required to accept scores from other regions.

Subjects + Skills Tested

The following subjects are tested on the NextGen UBE:

Foundational Concepts and Principles

- Civil Procedure
- Contract Law
- Evidence
- Torts
- Business Associations
- Constitutional Law
- Criminal Law
- Real Property
- Family Law: From July 2026 to February 2028, family law concepts will be featured in every NextGen exam as part of a performance task and may also appear in integrated question sets. During this transition period, these concepts will be assessed alongside provided legal resources. Beginning in July 2028, family law will be incorporated into the foundational concepts and principles examined in the NextGen UBE. At that point, it will be tested in the same manner as other core legal principles.
- Trusts and Estates: Starting in July 2026 and continuing through at least February 2028, trusts and estates topics will be featured on every NextGen exam. These concepts will be assessed within performance tasks and may also appear in integrated question sets. During this time, legal resources will be provided for all trusts and estates-related questions.

Foundational Lawyering Skills

- Legal Research
- Legal Writing
- Issue Spotting and Analysis
- Investigation and Evaluation
- Client Counseling and Advising
- Negotiation and Dispute Resolution
- Client Relationship and Management



Jurisdictions Administering the NextGen UBE

The following jurisdictions have announced their adoption of the NextGen UBE starting with the dates listed below.

This information is accurate at the time of printing this flyer. Currently in development, the NextGen UBE is scheduled to launch in select U.S. jurisdictions in July 2026.

Adoption Date	Jurisdiction
July 2026	Connecticut, Guam, Idaho, Maryland, Missouri, Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon, Virgin Islands, Washington
July 2027	Arizona, Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming
February 2028	Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois
July 2028	Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin
To Be Announced	Mississippi

NextGen UBE Passing Score	Jurisdiction
610	Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, Washington
612	Guam, Palau
614	Indiana
615	Oregon (July 2026 only)*, Northern Mariana Islands
616	Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho, Kentucky, Maryland, Virgin Islands
620	Maine, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon (2027+) Pennsylvania, Vermont

*The Oregon Supreme Court ordered the pass score for the July 2026 NextGen UBE to be set at 615. The pass score for the NextGen UBE offered after July 2026 is set at 620.

Note that some jurisdictions listed above will not administer the NextGen UBE until 2027 or 2028, although they have published passing scores.

Disclaimer

The NextGen UBE is currently under development, and details about the exam and participating jurisdictions are continually being updated. As this information is subject to change, we encourage you to regularly check the NCBE and your state bar examiner's website for the latest updates specific to your chosen jurisdiction. **Source:** The NCBE (National Conference of Bar Examiners) website