The NextGen Bar Exam
Update for Legal Educators
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Overview

- Knowledge Areas
- Components
- Jurisdiction
Foundational Doctrinal Areas

- Business Associations
- Civil Procedure
- Constitutional Law
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Evidence
- Real Property
- Torts
- Family Law

UPDATE
JULY 2028
Integrating Skills and Doctrine

- Business Associations
- Civil Procedure
- Constitutional Law
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Evidence
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- Torts
- Family Law

- JULY 2028

- Legal Research
- Legal Writing
- Client Relationship and Management
- Issue Spotting and Analysis
- Negotiation and Dispute Resolution
- Investigation and Evaluation
- Client Counseling and Advising
# Schedule of Content Changes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JULY 2026–FEBRUARY 2028</th>
<th>JULY 2028</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NextGen UBE • MBE, MEE, MPT • Legacy UBE</strong></td>
<td><strong>NextGen UBE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Family Law</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Removed from MEE</td>
<td>Added to Foundational Concepts and Principles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prioritized (MPT and NextGen performance tasks and integrated question sets)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Trusts &amp; Estates</strong></td>
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<td>Prioritized Performance tasks and integrated question sets</td>
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</tbody>
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**Key:** 📚 Legal resources provided
Doctrinal knowledge and application

**Detailed Knowledge ★**
Know details of doctrine *without consulting legal resources*

**Limited Scope**
Spot issues and work efficiently *with provided legal resources* to perform analyses and evaluation tasks
Multiple-Choice Questions

- Stand-alone and within integrated question sets
- Two types:
  - Select one answer
  - Select multiple answers
Integrated Question Set

- One client scenario with a collection of short-answer and multiple-choice questions and sometimes a short drafting exercise
- Examinee must demonstrate one or more legal skills in the context of the scenario raising one or more substantive or procedural legal issues
Integrated Question Set

- Issue Spotting and Analysis
- Investigation and Evaluation
- Evidence
- Criminal Law
- Client Counseling and Advising
- Negotiation and Dispute Resolution
Performance Tasks

- Performance tasks will continue to be "closed universe" assessments with legal resources provided.
- Some may have a research element and a few multiple-choice and constructed-response questions.
NextGen will be a 9-hour, fully computer-based exam administered over a day and a half. Each three-hour section will consist of two sets of multiple-choice questions, two integrated question sets, and one performance task. **This sequence and timing are subject to change after data analysis from Field and Prototype Tests.**
NextGen scores will function as equivalents to Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) components for inter-jurisdictional score portability.
Jurisdictions Will Continue To:

- Determine eligibility to sit for the exam
- Make accommodations decisions
- Administer the exam
- Grade their examinee answers
- Set passing standard and offer portability
NextGen Adoption to Date

**JULY 2026**
- Maryland
- Missouri
- Oregon

**JULY 2027**
- Arizona
- Iowa
- Kentucky
- Nebraska
- Wyoming

**DATE TBD**
- Connecticut

Not shown:
- Guam, Northern Mariana Islands,
- Palau, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands

As of 1/3/2024
Research Phases

Phase 1: August 2022 – April 2023
- Efficacy of new item types
- Impact of providing legal resources
- Time needed to answer new question types

Phase 2: Q1 2024
- Confirm timing estimates
- Efficacy of new performance tasks
- Generate item and test performance data

Phase 3: October 2024
- Full-length test
- Administered in realistic conditions
- Generate data to set passing scores
Phase 1

- Efficacy of new item types
  - 93% found item sets to be of reasonable difficulty
  - Supported by percent correct (p-values) obtained

- Impact of providing legal resources
  - 72% of those with access used resources
  - No difference in scores

- Time needed to answer new question types
  - Guidelines for appropriate time allotment for similar item types
  - Informs use of item types within NextGen
Group Performance

Score differences for different item types

- First in family – bachelor’s degree
- First in family – law school
- Identify with a disability
- Received ADA accommodations
- English first language

Single Select MCQ  Multiple Select MCQ  Constructed Response
Group Performance

Score differences for different item types
Thank you.