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NOTICE TO THE BAR

January 8, 2025

NextGen Bar Examination

The Court of Appeals announces that, effective for the July 2028 administration of the New York State bar examination, the Uniform Bar Examination will be replaced by the NextGen Bar Exam. The Court's Rules for the Admission of Attorneys and Counselors at Law will be amended accordingly. The NextGen Bar Exam, developed by the National Conference of Bar Examiners after a years-long study, which included a nationwide practice analysis, will test a broad range of foundational skills deemed necessary to the practice of law and, like the Uniform Bar Examination, will provide New York test takers with a portable score.

The NextGen Bar Exam will be a 9-hour exam, administered over one and a half days (6 hours the first day and 3 hours on the second). To ensure that attorneys who wish to be admitted in New York are sufficiently versed in New York legal principles and practice, a committee, co-chaired by the Honorable Eugene F. Pigott and Sherry Levin Wallach, will expeditiously study and report to the Court on various options for a robust New York-specific bar eligibility requirement (*see* Rule 520.9 [2], [3]), including the possibility of an in-person New York law component. Upon review of the Committee's findings, the Court will announce implementation of additional changes to the rules for admission to the New York.

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