

**MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS
ANNOUNCES ADOPTION OF THE NEXT GEN BAR EXAM BEGINNING JULY 2026**

(ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND, November 1, 2023) – The Supreme Court of Maryland has voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Maryland State Board of Law Examiners (SBLE) to adopt the NextGen Bar Exam, currently being developed by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE). On November 1, 2023, the Court entered an [Administrative Order](#) that implements its decision to adopt the NextGen Bar Exam and directs the Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure to propose new Rules and/or amendments to the existing Maryland Rules of Procedure, as necessary to allow SBLE to administer the NextGen Bar Exam beginning in July 2026, which is the first bar exam administration for which NextGen exam materials will become available.

SBLE’s letter to the Supreme Court of Maryland recommending adoption of the NextGen Bar Exam is available [HERE](#).

Information on the content scope and format of the NextGen Bar Exam is available [HERE](#).

In addition to receiving a passing score on the NextGen Bar Exam, applicants for law licensure in Maryland will continue to be required to successfully complete an exercise focused on Maryland law, known as the Maryland Law Component.

Information on the Maryland Law Component is available [HERE](#).

On November 1, 2023, the NCBE announced plans by Maryland and four other jurisdictions (Connecticut, Missouri, Oregon, and Wyoming) to adopt the NextGen exam materials. NCBE’s press release may be viewed [HERE](#).

Questions regarding adoption of the NextGen Bar Exam in Maryland may be directed to SBLE@mdcourts.gov.