

## **BOARD RULE 5. EXAMINATION FORMAT, QUALIFYING UBE SCORE AND GRADING**

**(a) Authority.** Pursuant to Maryland Rules 19-101(r) and 19-203(a), the State Board of Law Examiners participates in the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) score portability compact, coordinated by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE), and administers bar examinations using UBE test materials published by the NCBE. Through February 2026, the Board administered the Legacy UBE, as defined in Md. Rule 19-101(g). Beginning in July 2026, the Board will administer the NextGen UBE, as defined in Md. Rule 19-101(k).

### **(b) Qualifying UBE Score.**

**(1) Legacy UBE.** Pursuant to the authority granted by Maryland Rule 19-203(d), the Board establishes that a qualifying score on the Legacy UBE is a scaled score of 266 earned by an applicant on an administration of the Legacy UBE given in Maryland or in an administration of the Legacy UBE given in another UBE State within the three years preceding the filing of a Notice of Intent to Transfer a Qualifying UBE Score pursuant to Rule 19-207. The 3-year period shall be deemed to run from August 1 next following a July administration of the UBE through July 31 three years later, and from March 1 next following a February administration of the UBE through the last day of February three years later. In the event that a UBE administration scheduled for a July or a February is postponed, scores earned on the postponed administration shall be treated as if the UBE had been administered on the originally scheduled dates. A Legacy UBE score of 266 or greater earned in another UBE State shall continue to be a Qualifying UBE Score in Maryland until that score expires pursuant to the terms of this Board Rule, regardless of whether that score is earned before or after the Board begins to administer the NextGen UBE.

**(2) NextGen UBE.** Pursuant to the authority granted by Maryland Rule 19-203 (d), the Board establishes that a qualifying score on the NextGen UBE is a scaled score of 616 earned by an applicant on an administration of the NextGen UBE in Maryland or in an administration of the NextGen UBE in another UBE State within the three years preceding the filing of a Notice of Intent to Transfer a Qualifying UBE Score pursuant to Rule 19-207. The three-year period shall be deemed to run from August 1 next following a July administration of the UBE through July 31 three years later, and from March 1 next following a February administration of the UBE through the last day of February three years later. In the event that a UBE administration scheduled for a July or a February is postponed, scores earned on the postponed administration shall be treated as if the UBE had been administered on the originally scheduled dates.

### **(c) Grading.**

**(1) Legacy UBE.** The Legacy UBE consists of the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE), the Multistate Essay Examination (MEE), and the Multistate Performance Test (MPT)

(i) The MBE is a multiple-choice test published and scored by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) and its agents.

(ii) The MEE and MPT are constructed-response tests published by the NCBE and graded by the Board. Scaling of Raw MEE scores and raw MPT scores to the MBE is performed by NCBE.

(iii) Calculation of an applicant's total Legacy UBE score is performed by NCBE.

**(2) NextGen UBE.** The NextGen UBE is an integrated examination containing multiple choice questions, and constructed response questions of varying lengths.

(i) Multiple choice questions on the NextGen UBE are graded by NCBE.

(ii) Constructed response questions on the NextGen UBE are graded by the Board

(iii) Calculation of an applicant's total NextGen UBE score is performed by NCBE.

**(d) No Regrade or Appeal.** After the NCBE calculates an applicant's UBE score, the Board shall not regrade or otherwise reconsider any constructed response answer. Except as provided in Rule 19-209(a), an applicant's examination results shall not be subject to appeal.

**(e) How UBE transfer score to be reported.** Each individual who seeks to file a Notice of Intent to Transfer a Qualifying UBE Score pursuant to Rule 19-207 shall, prior to filing the Notice of Intent, cause the Board to receive from the NCBE a valid score report demonstrating that the individual achieved a Qualifying UBE Score.

*[Adopted June 6, 2016, eff. July 1, 2016. Amended June 11, 2021, eff. July 26, 2021. Amended December 5, 2025, eff. March 1, 2026.]*