

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS

In re: Acceptance of Transferred Scores From)	
NextGen Uniform Bar Examination)	M.R. 32890
)	
)	
)	

Order

The National Conference of Bar Examiners (“NCBE”) has announced that it will begin offering a new version of the bar examination, known as the NextGen Uniform Bar Examination (“NextGen UBE”), beginning July 2026.

This Court previously announced Illinois will first administer the NextGen UBE in February 2028, and until that time, will continue to administer the current version of the Uniform Bar Examination, known as the Legacy Uniform Bar Examination (“Legacy UBE”).

Under the Legacy UBE, passing scores are considered “portable,” such that a passing score attained in one Legacy UBE jurisdiction generally may be transferred to and accepted by other Legacy UBE jurisdictions.

NCBE and participating jurisdictions are developing a similar system of score portability for the NextGen UBE and, beginning July 2026, ten jurisdictions, including Missouri, will administer the first NextGen UBE.

Once results from the July 2026 administration of the NextGen UBE are available, applicants from one or more of these ten jurisdictions likely will be interested in transferring their NextGen UBE score to Illinois for the purpose of seeking admission to the Illinois bar.

This Court wishes to support the portability of passing scores on the NextGen UBE by announcing its intention to accept transferred NextGen UBE scores in a timely manner in order to help inform applicants’ decisions about registering to sit for the July 2026 bar examination in a particular jurisdiction and preparing to take a particular iteration of the Uniform Bar Examination (i.e., Legacy UBE or NextGen UBE).

This Court also wishes to ensure that the Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar (“IBAB”) has adequate information to develop and submit to the Court a recommendation regarding the passing score on the NextGen UBE that Illinois will accept for transfer, on a timeline that also will support the portability of passing scores on the NextGen UBE.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Beginning with the July 2026 administration, IBAB shall accept for transfer passing scores attained on the NextGen UBE in other jurisdictions, at or above a threshold score to be determined at a later date, for purposes of admission to the Illinois bar. Such scores shall be accepted and processed in accordance with Illinois Supreme Court Rule 704A. Effective with the July 2026 administration, the term "Uniform Bar Examination" as used in Rule 704A, shall include both the Legacy UBE and the NextGen UBE, as defined above.
2. IBAB may propose amendments to the Illinois Supreme Court Rules and the IBAB Rules of Procedure as needed to implement this interpretation, and may make appropriate revisions to its operating procedures, forms, and applicant instructions.
3. IBAB shall submit to the Court, on or before July 31, 2026, a recommendation for establishing a passing score on the NextGen UBE. The Court will endeavor to act upon IBAB's recommendation by September 30, 2026. IBAB shall not accept a transferred NextGen UBE score from another jurisdiction until the Court enters an order establishing Illinois' passing score on the NextGen UBE.

Order entered by the Court.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of said Court, this 2nd day of December, 2025.

Cynthia A. Grant

Clerk,
Supreme Court of the State of Illinois

FILED
December 2, 2025
SUPREME COURT
CLERK