

Supreme Court of Texas

Misc. Docket No. 24-9040

ORDER REGARDING THE NEXTGEN BAR EXAM AND TEXAS LAW COMPONENT AND SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Texas Board of Law Examiners (“Board” or “BLE”) has recommended that the Court adopt the NextGen Bar Examination for individuals seeking admission to the Texas Bar. The Board’s recommendation was based on its study of the NextGen Bar Examination and input from the BLE NextGen Work Group, which also recommended adoption. The BLE NextGen Work Group included Board members and Texas Law School Deans.

After consideration, the Court accepts the Board’s recommendation and expects to adopt the NextGen Bar Examination in Texas. The Court anticipates this change will take effect beginning with the July 2028 exam administration and that necessary rule amendments will be adopted in the interim period as further data regarding the examination becomes available.

Like the Uniform Bar Exam currently in use, the NextGen Bar Exam will result in a portable score transferrable to other participating jurisdictions. The Court anticipates that NextGen Bar Examination scores earned in other jurisdictions will be transferable to Texas and that necessary rule amendments regarding transferability will be adopted.

The Court also accepts the Board’s recommendation that an appropriate, graded Texas Law Component be reintroduced to ensure that applicants who wish to be admitted to the Texas Bar have sufficient knowledge of important aspects of Texas law. The Court anticipates the Texas Law Component will be a half-day graded exam. The content, timing, and format of this Texas Law Component have not yet been determined, but the Court anticipates that this change will take effect beginning with the July 2028 exam administration, and the Court will continue to study the matter with guidance from the Board.

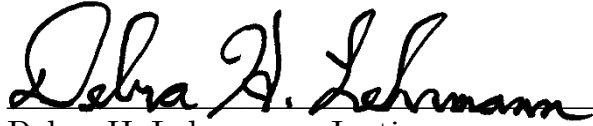
The Court invites public comment on this Order through September 30, 2024. Written comments should be emailed to rulescomments@txcourts.gov.

The Court is grateful to the Texas Board of Law Examiners, the BLE Work Group, and the Texas Law School Deans for their time and thorough consideration and communication with the Court on this important subject.

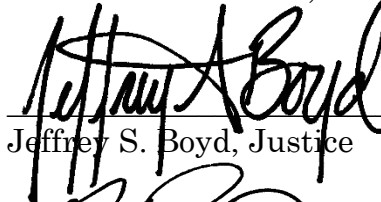
Dated: June 25, 2024.



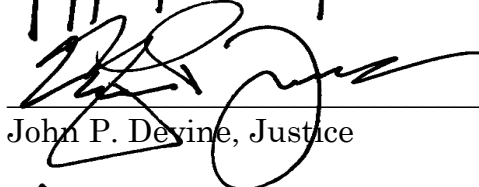
Nathan L. Hecht, Chief Justice



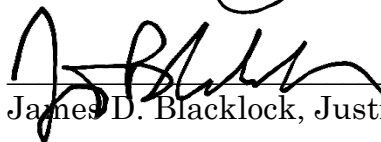
Debra H. Lehrmann, Justice



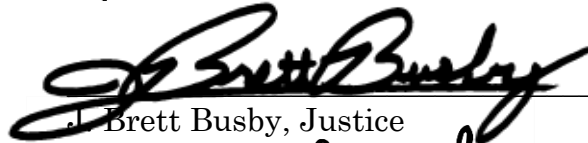
Jeffrey S. Boyd, Justice



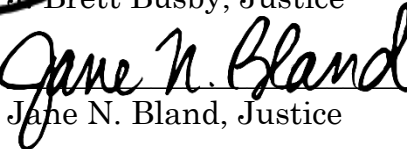
John P. Devine, Justice



James D. Blacklock, Justice



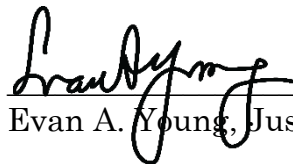
J. Brett Busby, Justice



Jane N. Bland, Justice



Rebeca A. Huddle, Justice



Evan A. Young, Justice