



News Release

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Committee to Study Uniform Bar Exam Formed

The Supreme Court has formed a committee to determine if New Jersey should adopt the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) for attorneys.

The Supreme Court Ad Hoc Committee on the Uniform Bar Examination will study whether the UBE should replace the state's existing bar examination and evaluate the recent decision by the New York Court of Appeals to implement the UBE next summer. That move will significantly affect applicants for the New Jersey bar examination because about 50 percent of New Jersey applicants also test in New York.

It is also anticipated that other states in the region could follow New York's lead and use the UBE. A total of 17 states are using the UBE, a standardized test consisting of three components authored by the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

The committee will study available literature on the UBE, with particular emphasis on the report authored by the New York Advisory Committee, and examine any issues unique to New Jersey. The committee will issue a report detailing its findings and recommendations to the Supreme Court early next year.

"New York's transition to the UBE will have a substantial effect on law students who want to be licensed to practice law in New Jersey," Chief Justice Stuart Rabner said. "The committee will carefully study this issue and recommend whether New Jersey should adopt the UBE."

Associate Justice Jaynee LaVecchia will chair the committee and retired Associate Justice John E. Wallace Jr. will serve as vice chair.

The committee will hold a public hearing for oral comments on Wednesday, Nov. 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick. A Notice to the Bar explaining the details can be found [here](#).

A list of committee members can be found [here](#).

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