

New York State Board of Law Examiners

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PRESS RELEASE

The New York State Board of Law Examiners announced today that grading has been completed for the July 2023 New York State Bar Examination. The examination results were posted today to candidate accounts in the Applicant Services Portal. This is the earliest date in recent memory that the July bar exam results were released.

The Board examined 9,779 candidates, including U.S. domestic-educated candidates and foreign-educated candidates, first-time and repeat takers, during the July 2023 bar examination. Of those candidates, 6,481 passed for an overall passing rate of 66%, which is the same overall passing rate on the July 2022 examination.

The passing rate for the 5,532 Juris Doctor graduates of American Bar Association accredited law schools who took the bar examination for the first time in July 2023 is 85%, the same passing rate for this cohort as last year. The passing rate for the 3,221 Juris Doctor graduates of the New York law schools who took the examination for the first time is 83%. The passing rate for the 2,311 Juris Doctor graduates of out-of-state ABA-accredited law schools who took the examination for the first time is 88%.

The passing rate for the 2,046 repeat takers of the bar examination in July 2023 is 29%, an increase of 6% from last year. Repeat takers accounted for 21% of all candidates who sat for the July 2023 examination. Foreign-educated candidates, totaling 3,369 or 35% of all candidates, had a passing rate of 45%, an increase of 1% from last year.

Passing rates for various groups of candidates are presented on the chart below.

New York State Bar Examination Passing Rates	July 2023
All JD ABA Graduates – First-Time Takers	85%
New York ABA Schools - First-Time Takers	83%
Out-of-State ABA Schools – First-Time Takers	88%
Foreign-Educated – First-Time Takers	54%
All First-Time Takers	76%
All Repeaters	29%
All ABA Graduates (first-time takers & repeaters)	78%
All Foreign-Educated (first-time takers & repeaters)	45%
All Candidates (first-time takers & repeaters)	66%

A list of candidates who passed the July 2023 bar examination will be available to the public on the Board's website at www.nybarexam.org on Friday, October 20, 2023 after 12:00 PM ET. Each successful candidate, who also has completed the New York Law Course and taken and passed both the New York Law Exam and the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination as required by the Rules of the New York State Court of Appeals, will be certified by the Board to the Appellate Division for admission to the bar. Each candidate must then appear before the Committee on Character and Fitness to be examined as to their character and fitness before being admitted to the bar.

The Board congratulates the candidates who were successful on the July 2023 bar examination.