

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 2021 New York State Bar Examination. Candidates received electronic notification of their examination results today.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the July 27-28, 2021 bar examination was administered remotely. The July 2021 bar examination included all components of the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE), and candidates have received a portable score that may be transferred to other UBE jurisdictions.

The results show that the passing rate for the 5,354 graduates of American Bar Association accredited law schools who were first time candidates in July 2021 is 87%, an increase of 1% from the July 2019 examination. The passing rate for the 3,084 graduates of New York law schools who were first time candidates is 86%, which is also an increase of 1% from the July 2019 examination. A comparison of these results to those from the October 2020 examination is less useful, as the October 2020 examination presented an unprecedented and unique situation involving a limited pool of candidates as well as testing of only certain components of the UBE.

Overall, the Board examined 9,227 candidates, including U.S. domestic-educated candidates, foreign-educated candidates, first time candidates, and repeat candidates, during the July examination. Of those candidates, 5,791 passed for an overall passing rate of 63%, which is 2% lower than the overall passing rate on the July 2019 examination. The lower overall passing rate is largely attributable to the

higher percentage of repeat takers in this year's pool of candidates (25%) compared to the July 2019 examination (21%).

The passing rate for all foreign-educated candidates who sat for the July 2021 examination is 31%. The number of foreign-educated candidates who took the July 2021 bar examination was 3,129, or 34% of all candidates who took the bar examination.

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

New York State Bar Examination Passing Rates	July 2021
New York ABA Schools - First-Time Takers	86%
Out-of-State ABA Schools – First-Time Takers	90%
All ABA Graduates – First-Time Takers	87%
Foreign-Educated – First-Time Takers	46%
All First-Time Takers	78%
All ABA Graduates (first-time takers & repeaters)	79%
All Foreign-Educated (first-time takers & repeaters)	31%
All Candidates (first-time takers & repeaters)	63%

A list of candidates who passed the July 2021 bar examination will be published on the Board's website at www.nybarexam.org on Friday, October 29, 2021. Successful candidates who also have 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. Candidates must then appear before the Committee on Character and Fitness before being admitted to the bar.

The Board congratulates the candidates who were successful on the July 2021 bar examination.