



**In the Supreme Court of Iowa**

**In the Matter of Amendments** )  
**to Iowa Court Rule 31.3—** ) **Order**  
**Required Examinations** )

Upon recommendation of the Iowa Supreme Court Office of Professional Regulation, the supreme court adopts two amendments to Iowa Court Rule 31.3(1)(b) as set forth below.

The National Conference of Bar Examiners has removed negotiable instruments from the Multistate Essay Examination (MEE) beginning with the February 2015 examination. The court amends Iowa Court Rule 31.3(1)(b) to remove negotiable instruments as a potential subject of testing.

Iowa Court Rule 31.3(1)(b) is also amended to reflect that the board of law examiners no longer selects the questions appearing on the MEE. A minor renumbering of the rule accompanies these amendments.

The amendments to Iowa Court Rule 31.3(1)(b) are provided with this order. These amendments are effective immediately.

Dated this 16 day of December, 2014.

**The Supreme Court of Iowa**

By Mark S. Cady  
Mark S. Cady, Chief Justice

**Rule 31.3 Required examinations.**

**31.3(1) Iowa bar examination.** Beginning with the February 2009 administration of the Iowa bar examination, the provisions of this rule shall apply to the dates and content of the bar examination.

*a.* Written examinations for admission to the bar shall be held in Polk County, Iowa, commencing with a mandatory orientation session on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in February and on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in July.

*b.* The examination shall consist of three components: the Multistate Essay Examination (MEE), the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE), and the Multistate Performance Test (MPT). There shall be one three-hour MEE session consisting of six questions, one MPT session consisting of two 90-minute performance tests, and two MBE sessions consisting of 100 multiple-choice questions each. The MEE portion of the examination shall consist of questions ~~selected by the board~~ from the following subjects:

- (1) Business associations
  1. Agency and partnership
  2. Corporations and LLCs
- (2) Conflict of laws
- (3) Constitutional law (Federal)
- (4) Contracts (including Uniform Commercial Code (Sales) (Art. 2))
- (5) Criminal law and procedure
- (6) Evidence (based on the Federal rules of evidence)
- (7) Family law
- (8) Federal civil procedure
- (9) Real property
- (10) Torts
- (11) Trusts and Estates
  1. Decedents' estates
  2. Trusts and future interests
- (12) Uniform Commercial Code—secured transactions (Art. 9)
  - ~~1. Negotiable instruments (Commercial Paper) (Art. 3)~~
  - ~~2. Secured transactions (Art. 9)~~

*c.* Some MEE questions may include issues from more than one area of law. Conflict of laws issues are embedded in the other MEE topic areas. They do not appear as stand-alone questions. Uniform Commercial Code issues may require the applicants to know the general principles and applicable definitions set forth in Art. 1. Complete subject matter outlines for the MEE are available on the website of National Conference of Bar Examiners.

e.d. Applicants must achieve a combined scaled score of 266 or above in order to pass the examination. All passes and all failures shall be on a vote of at least four members of the board of law examiners admitted to practice law in Iowa.