

Fifth GBA Legal Professional Examination to be held in October

The Department of Justice (DoJ) welcomed the notice issued by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) last Friday (June 20) on the details of the 2025 Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Legal Professional Examination (GBA Examination). The examination will be held on October 25 in Shenzhen and Zhuhai, Guangdong. Eligible applicants can apply to sit for the examination through the website of the MoJ from June 25 to July 4. For more details, please

visit: www.moj.gov.cn/pub/sfbgw/zwxxgk/fdzdgknr/fdzdgknrtzvj/202506/t20250620_521341.html (in Chinese only).

The GBA Examination has been held four times. Currently, over 560 Hong Kong and Macao legal practitioners have passed the examination and obtained the Lawyer's License (Guangdong-Hongkong-Macao Greater Bay Area) to provide legal services in the nine Mainland municipalities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) on specified civil and commercial matters to which the Mainland laws apply. The period of the pilot scheme for Hong Kong and Macao legal practitioners to practise in the nine Mainland municipalities in the GBA has been extended until October 4, 2026. The practice experience threshold for enrolment in the GBA Examination has also been lowered from five years to three years.

The Secretary for Justice, Mr Paul Lam, SC, said, "As the GBA Examination continues to be held and the team of GBA lawyers continues to grow, the pilot scheme fully harnesses the GBA's unique advantage of 'one country, two systems and three jurisdictions', contributing to the construction of rule of law in the GBA. The pilot scheme will expire next year. We will actively strive for the scheme of GBA lawyers to be regularised."

The DoJ will continue to work closely with authorities including the MoJ and the Department of Justice of Guangdong Province in their work to implement the fifth GBA Examination and provide training for GBA lawyers.

Ends/Monday, June 23, 2025