



## Next Generation of CM/ECF

The Judiciary's Case Management/Electronic Case Files (CM/ECF) system is the means by which judges, court staff, attorneys, and other public users electronically file, review, and download case information. The system is fully implemented in all federal courts.

The Judiciary is transitioning to a Next Generation of CM/ECF (NextGen). It was first released to a group of pilot courts in 2014 and a full transition is expected over several years. The first release includes new sign-on functionality which gives users access to both PACER and electronic filing, for all NextGen courts in which the user is authorized to file electronically, from a single account.

## NextGen Goals

- Greater integration among the district, bankruptcy, and appellate systems
- Shared data with other Judiciary electronic systems
- More streamlined processes
- Greater consistency in user experience, especially for external users
- Greater efficiency by using new tools and technology

## WIWB NextGen Implementation

<http://www.wiwb.uscourts.gov/nextgen>

On **March 30, 2020**, the Western District of Wisconsin Bankruptcy Court will begin upgrading its Case Management/Electronic Case Filing System (CM/ECF) to the Next Generation of CM/ECF (NextGen). This upgrade will provide users with several benefits including Central Sign-on: the ability for e-filing attorneys to access any NextGen court within which they practice using one login and password.

**The Western District of Wisconsin Bankruptcy Court plans to complete the upgrade to NextGen by March 30, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. Please plan for the system to be unavailable for electronic filing from Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. thru Monday, March 30, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.**

**Central Sign-On** allows all CM/ECF users to maintain one account across all courts (appellate, district, and bankruptcy) and to sign in one time to access all the courts in which they have permission to e-file. Each user is identified with the appropriate level of access in each court. The PACER Service Center supports outside user requests for attorney admissions and e-filing recognition from various courts. Courts continue to be responsible for admitting attorneys and assigning e-filing permissions to users.

In order to prepare for NextGen, you must complete a few preliminary steps. **Your PACER Account will be your login (entry point for both PACER and CM/ECF). Therefore, you must have access to an Individual PACER Account.**

**Prior to March 30, 2020**  
**Complete Steps 1-3**

### Step One:

Obtain your own individual PACER account, if you do not already have one. Register for a new PACER account:

<https://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov/pscwf/regWizard.jsf>

### Step Two:

If you have your own individual PACER account and it was created prior to August 11, 2014 (also known as a Legacy account), you must upgrade your account before you can electronically file in a NextGen court. Please see the learning module below on upgrading your PACER account.

<https://www.pacer.gov/ecfcbt/cso/>

### Step Three:

Identify your current CM/ECF login and password. You will need to know your current login and password for step four. This is the login and password you are currently using. If you do not know your password, please call the clerk's office at (608) 264-5178 or (715) 839-2980.

**On or After March 30, 2020**  
**Complete Step 4**

### Step Four:

Upon Go-Live (**March 30, 2020 or after**), you must link your upgraded PACER account to your WIWB NextGen CM/ECF account. Users will NOT be able to file in NextGen until their CM/ECF account is linked to their upgraded individual PACER account.