



The State Bar *of California*

Examinations Planning Session

Goals, Objectives and Work Plan for 2020

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Examinations Functions

- For the CBX, oversees format, scope, topics, content, and grading process; for the FYLSX – same, but also determines passing score. Also participates in question selection for the CBX
- Considers appeals re: incidents and petitions related to the examination, such as requests for reconsideration of examination results
- Has primary responsibility for reviewing psychometric & bar exam reports
- Considers appeals filed by applicants with disabilities requesting testing accommodations for taking examinations



Changes Implemented in 2019 Exam Development

- Implement processes and procedures to better time access to examination information for those with need to know, including CBE members, until the latest feasible date
- Accordingly, CBX Question Assignment Memos sent prior to CBE Question Selection Meeting now contain more limited information



Changes Implemented in 2019 Exam Grading

- Electronic answer files reviewed and scored online
- Enable secure electronic communications with graders, EDG team, and staff
- More efficient monitoring and tracking of grader performance through the exam cycle
- Decreased wait time for results & dissemination of essay answer files
- Staff/Graders/EDG team trained on new processes
- Internal protocols/checks and balances developed



Changes Implemented in 2019 Testing Accommodations

- Online TA petition process in AIMS
- Enables electronic communications with applicants and third parties
- Electronic receipt/review of petitions and supporting documentation, efficient assignment of cases, speedier review, more efficient monitoring and tracking of applications
- Paper petitions greatly reduced



Changes Anticipated in 2020

Examination Development

- Addition of Apprentice EDG Team Members to assist in examination development tasks
- Development and delivery of enhanced training for new and existing EDG Team Members
- Identification and implementation of ways in which diversity and inclusion principles can be institutionalized in Bar exam development
- Development and implementation of a sampling plan into the consideration of question topics to be selected for each Bar exam
- Improvement of the State Bar's collaboration website to enhance electronic receipt/review of questions by the EDG Team and more efficient monitoring and tracking of question drafts



Training Topics for 2020

Examination Grading

- Development of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines for Exam Reconsideration Requests (Test Center Incidents and Examination Results): Exploration of options, development of staff proposals and policy development
- Presentation on Scaling Methodology Used in Grading
- Presentation on the Phased Grading System for the California Bar Exam

Testing Accommodations (TA)

- Presentation on Substantive Issues on Evaluating TA Petitions

Examination Development

- Presentation from Examination Development and Grading (EDG) Team Member on Question Editing

Other Suggestions?



Current Goals

- Evaluation of the Examination Development Process
 - Consider use of sampling plan in consideration of selection of bar exam topics
 - Consider CAPA study and impact on bar exam development
 - Consider additional studies to be done post-CAPA, e.g., new content validation study
 - Consider next steps with regard to conducting additional studies relative to content, format and passing score for the California Bar Examination
- Evaluation of the results of the 2-Day Bar Exam on pass rates, costs, etc.
- Evaluation of the Grading Process
 - Consider report on recommended best practices in examination administration and examination grading prepared by the California Department of Consumer Affairs
 - Conduct survey and assess other bar jurisdiction processes
 - Consider proposals on ways to reduce the time it takes to release results for the Bar Examination



Recommendation for Work Plan

STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL & OBJECTIVE	WORK PLAN	DEADLINE	TO BOARD COMMITTEE (Y/N) / DATE
<p>Goal 2, Objective m: After the results on the February 2019 Bar Exam are published, evaluate the results of the two-day exam on pass rates and costs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider report prepared by the State Bar’s Office of Finance on the financial and budgetary impacts of the transition to the modified (2-Day) California Bar Examination. 	<p>To be presented to CBE at April 2020 meeting</p>	
<p>Goal 2, Objective n: No later than December 2019, conduct a California specific job analysis to determine the knowledge, skills, and abilities for entry level attorneys. Upon completion, conduct a new content validation study.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAPA study to be finalized after NCBE has completed its job analysis (expected in February 2020) CBE to review and consider final report prepared for the California Attorney Practice Analysis (CAPA) Conduct new content validation study 	<p>To be presented to CBE at April 2020 meeting</p> <p>To be presented to CBE at April 2020 meeting</p> <p>TBD</p>	