

AGENDA ITEM

143 MARCH 2016

DATE: February 10, 2016

TO: Members, Planning and Budget Committee
Members, Board of Trustees

FROM: Lee Wallach, Chair, Committee of Bar Examiners
Gayle Murphy, Senior Director, Office of Admissions

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendments to Accredited Law School Rules and Law School Fees – Return from Public Comment

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Accredited Law Schools Rules* allow law schools accredited by the Committee of Bar Examiners (Committee) to open branch and satellite campuses after receiving advance approval from the Committee. With each new branch or satellite campus that is approved, additional staff and Committee time is needed to review and process the campus' reporting and compliance requirements; however, no additional annual fee is currently assessed to cover these costs. The Committee believes an annual fee should be required for maintaining a branch or satellite campus. With the authorization of the Board of Trustees' Committee on Admissions and Education, proposed amendments to the Rules and the Schedule of Charges and Deadlines that would establish such a fee were circulated for a period of public comment. No comments were received. This item seeks Board approval of the fee proposal.

BACKGROUND

Over the past two years, the Committee of Bar Examiners (Committee) has approved the request of two California-Accredited law schools (CALS) to open new branch campuses. Since then, additional requests for the Committee's approval of multiple, new branch campuses have been received and many more such requests are expected. With the opening of each new branch or satellite campus, additional staff time is expended to review and process the annual reporting that is related to branch or satellite campuses, although no additional annual fee is charged currently for branch or satellite campuses.

At its August 2015 meeting, the Committee considered whether an annual fee for CALS branch and satellite campuses should be imposed. Given the additional amount of time that is needed by staff to review and analyze the information reported by the CALS that operate branch or satellite campuses, and using the fixed fee amount, the Committee found that an additional annual fee was necessary and sound. The Committee sought, and received permission from the Board of Trustees' Committee on Admissions and Education to circulate proposed amendments to the *Accredited Law School Rules* for public comment.

DISCUSSION

No comments were received during the public comment period. During its December 2015 meeting, the Committee adopted the following amendments to Rule 4.161 Annual Compliance Report of the Rules and Charges and Deadlines, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees:

(A) A law school subject to these rules must submit an Annual Compliance Report using the form prescribed by the Committee. The deadline and fee for submission of the report are set forth in the Schedule of Charges and Deadlines.

(B) A law school with an approved branch or satellite campus must submit an annual fee for each additional campus as set forth in the Schedule of Charges and Deadlines.

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Schedule of Charges and Deadlines

Rule	Description	Amount	Deadline
4.161	Annual Compliance Report	\$1,650	November 15
<u>4.161(A)</u>	<u>Annual Branch Campus Fee</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>November 15</u>
	<u>Annual Satellite Campus Fee</u>	<u>\$ 800</u>	<u>November 15</u>

RULE AMENDMENTS

Rule 4.161 of the *Accredited Law School Rules*.
Appendix A: Schedule of Charges and Deadlines

BOARD BOOK IMPACT

None

BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

If the Admissions and Education Committee agrees with the Committee's recommendation to approve the proposed amendments to Rule 4.161 Annual Compliance Report of the Rules and Charges and Deadlines, it should recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the amendment to Rule 4.161 of the *Accredited Law School Rules* and to the Law School Fees Charges and Deadlines in the form below:

(A) A law school subject to these rules must submit an Annual Compliance Report using the form prescribed by the Committee. The deadline and fee for submission of the report are set forth in the Schedule of Charges and Deadlines.

(B) A law school with an approved branch or satellite campus must submit an annual fee for each additional campus as set forth in the Schedule of Charges and Deadlines.

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