

COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM: February 2018 – O-300

DATE: January 16, 2018

TO: Subcommittee on Operations and Management

FROM: Greg Shin, Program Manager, Operations and Management

SUBJECT: **OCTOBER 2017 FIRST-YEAR LAW STUDENTS' EXAMINATION
COST ANALYSIS**

BACKGROUND

Please see below a cost analysis of the October 2017 First-Year Law Students' Examination (FYLSX). Attached is more detail with regard to the various expenses associated with administering the examination.

DISCUSSION

The total cost for administering the October 2017 FYLSX was \$146,548.63 for 353 applicants. This compares to \$157,222.51 and 382 respectively for October 2016.

Here are a few highlights from the cost analysis:

1. Approximately 57% of the facility capacity was used to administer this examination compared to 62% during the October 2016 examination.
2. Costs for facility rental, electrical outlets, and proctors made up roughly 70% of the total costs, which is identical to the prior year's examination.
3. While the 19 applicants who took the examination at the Testing Accommodations test centers made up only 5% of the total number of applicants, the cost to administer the examination to those applicants was approximately 42% of the total cost.
4. It costs approximately \$252 to administer the FYLSX to an applicant taking the examination at a standard test center compared to approximately \$3,267 for each applicant taking the examination at a Testing Accommodations test center.

Administering examinations at Testing Accommodations test centers involve higher costs because of the type of facility that must be used, i.e., hotel instead of a conference center to be able to provide semi-private/private rooms, additional proctors, specialized equipment/software, etc. If more applicants with disabilities are granted

accommodations in the future, overall costs will trend higher. It's also important to note that these figures don't include costs for staff time and actual costs for specialized consultants to review certain testing accommodations petitions. Both of which will also increase if volumes increase.

Staff continues to work on finding more cost effective testing locations to bring the overall cost of testing administration down from prior levels. The number of applicants taking the FYLSX continued to decline from 382 in October 2016 to 353 in 2017 which represents a 7.6% decrease.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that this report be received and filed.

PROPOSED MOTION

If the Subcommittee agrees, the following motion is suggested:

Move that the report on costs for administering the October 2017 First-Year Law Students' Examination be received and filed.