



The State Bar of California

State Bar of California

Development of the Domain Framework

845 S. Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017
February 27, 2019

Target Audience:

§ 6180.14 Attorney and Law Practice Defined

As used in this article, “attorney” means a member or former member of the State Bar; “law practice” means (a) a law practice conducted by an individual; (b) a law practice conducted by a partnership, if Section 6180 applies to all partners; and (c) a law practice conducted by a law corporation, if Section 6180 applies to all shareholders of the corporation or if the corporation is described in subdivision (b) of Section 13406 of the Corporations Code. This article does not apply to legal services rendered as an employee, or under a contract which does not create the relationship of lawyer and client. (Added by Stats. 1974, ch. 589. Amended by Stats. 1981, ch. 714, Stats. 1993, ch. 955.)

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants to the State Bar must demonstrate an acceptable legal education through one of the following:

- Three or four years of study at a law school accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA)
- Four years of study at a State Bar-registered, fixed-facility law school
- Four years of study with a minimum of 864 hours of preparation at a registered unaccredited distance-learning or correspondence [law school](#)
- Four years of study under the supervision of a [state judge or attorney](#)
- A combination of these programs

Definitions

Domains are the major categories that will be developed in the content outline. Two types of domain are envisioned, one being *performance categories*, such as case administration, drafting and writing, and negotiation, advocacy, and resolution. The other type of domain comprises *content categories*, such as civil procedure, constitutional law, contracts, and criminal law. It is important to keep in mind that the domains will form the highest level of organization for the California Bar Examination.

For the sake of example, several ways that licensed professions other than law use the frameworks:

- The US Medical Licensing Examination content outlines includes 18 topics, most of which are systems of the body, but they also include general principles, behavioral health, multisystem processes and disorders, biostatistics, and social sciences.

- The national examination used for licensure in occupational therapy content outline includes four performance domains: evaluation and assessment, analysis and interpretation, intervention management, and competency and practice management.
- The Professional Engineering examination content outline for mechanical engineers specializing in HVAC is organized around Principles (basic engineering practice, thermodynamics, psychrometrics, heat transfer, fluid mechanics, and energy/mass balances) and Applications (heating/cooling loads, equipment and components, systems and components, and supportive knowledge).
- The Architecture Registration Examination includes six performance components: practice management, project management, programming and analysis, project planning and design, project development and documentation, and construction and evaluation.

Activity for the small group

1. Evaluate the draft performance domains, making changes as needed to ensure that the major responsibilities of lawyering are listed and defined, so that panelists will understand how to develop the required detail (tasks) during their three-day meeting.
2. Evaluate the content domains that currently provide the framework for the Bar Examination in California, making changes to ensure the major areas of law are listed, so that panelists will understand how to develop the required detail (subdomains) during their three-day meeting.
3. Populate the table with sample tasks that illustrate how the performance domains and content domains interact. The panelists will use the sample tasks as a starting point as they develop a complete list of tasks.