



# The State Bar *of California*

---

## **OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEM APRIL 2020 COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS ITEM 0-300**

**DATE:** April 24, 2020

**TO:** Members, Committee of Bar Examiners

**FROM:** Tammy Campbell, Program Manager, Office of Admissions

**SUBJECT:** October 2019 First-Year Law Students' Examination Cost-Analysis

---

### **BACKGROUND**

This item summarizes the findings from the cost analysis of the October 2019 First-Year Law Students' Examination (FYLSX). Attached is a more detailed report on the various expenses associated with administering the examination.

### **DISCUSSION**

The total cost for administering the October 2019 FYLSX was \$130,131 for 295 applicants. This compares to \$140,946 for 282 applicants for the October 2018 FYLSX. The Legal Specialist Examination held their biennial exam on the same dates as the First-Year Examination, and shared facility space at three of our locations. The change in FYLSX applicants from October 2018 to October 2019 represents a 4.6 % increase.

Here are a few highlights from the cost analysis:

1. Approximately 77.6% of the facility capacity was used to administer this examination compared to 47.8% during the October 2018 examination. The increased percentage in facility usage from the prior year is due to a change to the max capacity. The max capacity in 2018 was 550 compared to 380 in 2019. The decrease in reaching maximum capacity at each facility is based on applying historical attendance numbers which have decreased over the past several years.
2. In line with historical data, 73% of our total costs were comprised of costs related to facility rental, electrical, and proctors.

3. While the 17 applicants that took the examination at the Testing Accommodations test centers made up only 5.7% of the total number of applicants, the cost to administer the examination to those applicants was approximately 41% of the total exam cost.
4. It costs approximately \$272 to administer the FYLSX to an applicant taking the examination at a standard test center compared to approximately \$3184 for each applicant taking the examination at a Testing Accommodations test center. The overall cost per applicant for the October 2019 FYLSX was \$441.

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 in order to be able to provide semi-private/private rooms, additional proctor requirements, specialized equipment/software, etc. It's also important to note that these figures don't include 'soft' costs for staff time and actual costs for medical experts/consultants to review testing accommodations petitions. Both of which will also increase if the number of granted testing accommodations continues to grow.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that this report be received and filed.

## **PROPOSED MOTION**

If the Committee agrees, the following motion is suggested:

Move that the report on costs for administering the October 2019 First-Year Law Students' Examination be received and filed.

October 2019 First Year Law Student's Exam Administration Costs																		
Test Center																		
Facility	Capacity	# of Testers	% of Capacity	Type	Facility Rental	Tables & Chairs	Electrical	Parking	Water	AV	Phones	Computers	Shipping	Staff Rooms	Proctors	Off-Duty	Grand Total	Cost/Tester
Northern California:																		
South San Francisco Conference Center (LW603)	100	72	72.00%	Combo	\$15,520.00	\$1,215.00	\$4,880.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,472.85	\$950.00	\$297.83	\$1,756.25	\$1,823.24	\$4,870.86	\$1,971.75	\$37,257.78	\$517.47
Holiday Inn SFO Airport (S620)	10	6	60.00%	TA	\$10,220.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,351.45	\$1,756.25	\$1,335.18	\$6,058.01	\$1,254.00	\$21,975.07	\$3,662.51
Northern California Totals	110	78	70.91%		\$25,740.18	\$1,215.00	\$4,880.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,472.85	\$950.00	\$1,649.28	\$3,512.50	\$3,158.42	\$10,928.87	\$3,225.75	\$59,232.85	\$759.40
Southern California:																		
The Pasadena Center (LW102)	250	206	82.40%	Combo	\$11,461.38	\$1,537.12	\$8,667.50	\$240.00	\$0.00	\$2,183.76	\$253.57	\$223.83	\$1,756.25	\$1,436.60	\$9,210.33	\$1,526.25	\$38,496.59	\$186.88
Doubeltree Westside (S106)	20	11	55.00%	TA	\$15,927.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$484.00	\$0.00	\$1,421.78	\$330.75	\$679.93	\$1,756.25	\$1,894.69	\$8,434.56	\$1,233.38	\$32,163.21	\$2,923.93
Southern California Totals	270	217	80.37%		\$27,389.25	\$1,537.12	\$8,667.50	\$724.00	\$0.00	\$3,605.54	\$584.32	\$903.76	\$3,512.50	\$3,331.29	\$17,644.89	\$2,759.63	\$70,659.80	\$325.62
Miscellaneous																\$ 239.25		
Non-TA Sites - Subtotal	350	278	79.43%	Combo	\$26,981.38	\$2,752.12	\$13,547.50	\$240.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,656.61	\$1,203.57	\$521.66	\$3,512.50	\$3,259.84	\$14,081.19	\$3,498.00	\$75,754.37	\$272.50
TA Sites - Subtotal	30	17	56.67%	TA	\$26,148.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$484.00	\$0.00	\$1,421.78	\$330.75	\$2,031.38	\$3,512.50	\$3,229.87	\$14,492.57	\$2,487.38	\$54,138.28	\$3,184.60
EXAM TOTAL	380	295	77.63%		\$53,129.43	\$2,752.12	\$13,547.50	\$724.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,078.39	\$1,534.32	\$2,553.04	\$7,025.00	\$6,489.71	\$28,573.76	\$6,224.63	\$130,131.90	\$441.13
% of Total					40.8%	2.1%	10.4%	0.6%	1.9%	3.9%	1.2%	2.0%	5.4%	5.0%	22.0%	4.8%	100.0%	