

Guiding Principles / Mission Statement

In carrying out its charge to develop recommendations concerning whether and what changes to make to the California Bar Exam, and whether to adopt alternatives or additional testing tools to ensure minimum competence to practice law, the Blue Ribbon Commission on the Future of the California Bar Exam is guided by the following principles:

- Admission to the State Bar of California requires a demonstration of knowledge, skills, and abilities currently required for the entry-level practice of law, otherwise referred to as minimum competence.
- Admission to the State Bar of California requires minimum competence in professional ethics and professional responsibility.
- Criteria for admission to the State Bar of California should be designed to ensure protection of the public.
- The recommended examination, or examination alternative, should be evidence-based.
- Accessibility of the examination, or examination alternative, should be an important consideration in developing the recommended approach.
- The recommended examination, or examination alternative, should minimize disparate performance impacts based on race, gender, ethnicity, or other immutable characteristics.