



**OPEN SESSION
AGENDA ITEM O-407
DECEMBER 2021
COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS**

DATE: December 3, 2021

TO: Members, Committee of Bar Examiners

FROM: Natalie Leonard, Principal Program Analyst, Office of Admissions

SUBJECT: Action on Waiver – Glendale University College of Law – Teach Classes Online Temporarily

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Glendale University College of Law (Glendale) requests a waiver from the Committee of Bar Examiners' (Committee) to teach JD classes online through August 31, 2022. (Attachment A.)

BACKGROUND

Glendale University College of Law is an accredited law school located in Glendale, California. The law school was last inspected in 2017 and found to be compliant.

According to its 2020 Annual Report, the law school enrolls 99 students in its JD program. Its Minimum, Cumulative, Five-Year Bar Exam Pass Rate (MPR) trend for the most recent four years is: 2018 MPR 66.7 percent; 2019 PR 62.2 percent, 2020 MPR 64.3 percent; and 2021 MPR 77.1 percent. The law school has not yet filed its 2021 Annual Report, which was due on November 15, 2021.

Glendale seeks a waiver to teach classes fully online through and including August 31, 2022 as a means to address the pandemic and to allow the law school to complete renovation of its facility.

The Committee's general waiver for fixed-facility law schools to teach classes online that has been in place since March 30, 2020 will expire on December 31, 2021. The Committee requested that fixed-facility schools who saw a pandemic-related need to teach classes online beyond that date should file individual waiver requests, as the law school has done here.

Under Rule 4.109, "[a] law school may request that the Committee waive any rule. The request must clearly show that the law school otherwise complies with these rules . . . and a waiver is temporary."

DISCUSSION

Glendale has been teaching classes online throughout the pandemic under the general waiver passed by the Committee allowing fixed facility law schools to teach classes online.

Though originally filed as an open-ended waiver, the law school was informed that waivers are granted on a fixed basis for a temporary period. The law school has consented in writing to adjust its request to expire on August 31, 2022.

Continuing to teach classes online will allow the law school to respond to public health circumstances and complete renovation of its facility that is scheduled to be completed in March 2022.

The law school will not be changing any of the other compliant elements of its program.

FISCAL/PERSONNEL IMPACT

None

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee of Bar Examiners receives, files, and grants Glendale University College of Law's request for waiver to teach classes online through August 31, 2022.

PROPOSED MOTION

Should the Committee of Bar Examiners agree with the staff recommendation, the following motion should be made:

MOVE, that the **Committee of Bar Examiners** receives, files and grants Glendale University College of Law's request for waiver to teach classes online through August 31, 2022.

ATTACHMENT LIST

- A. Glendale University College of Law – Request for Waiver and Major Change



GLENDALE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

Major Change Request - October 1, 2021

As required by Rule 4.164 - Prior Approval of Major Changes - Glendale University College of Law (GUCL) respectfully requests permission to continue offering the law program via synchronous, online delivery after the Committee's waiver expires on December 31, 2021.

GUCL Plan for Virtual Instruction:

Historically a classroom-based law program, GUCL began offering virtual instruction in March 2020 based on the waiver granted, and later extended, by the Committee.

GUCL has made an exceptional effort to maintain the quality and integrity of the law program via synchronous, online delivery, and to assure the educational resources and support provided to students is optimized.

Students and faculty receive training and detailed instructions on how to utilize remote resources successfully. Expectations for attendance, preparedness, and academic performance have been communicated.

Remote courses have remained 100% graded reflecting GUCL's commitment to maintaining long-established standards, and as an expression of confidence in the abilities of its community.

Secure exams using both AI and facial recognition have been administered remotely using State Bar of CA adopted Examplify, Exam ID and ExamMonitor (Examsoft suite). Instructions on remote exam policies, technologies, and 24/7 technical support provided.

GUCL Plan to Return to Classroom-Based Instruction:

GUCL's plan is to return to classroom-based instruction when the authorities and GUCL Board of Directors determine that is sustainable.

In support of GUCL's intention to return to a classroom-based program, the GUCL campus has been undergoing significant renovations. Great progress has been made and the remodel remains on-going.

Uncertainties caused by the pandemic make it difficult to determine exactly when GUCL will once again be a classroom-based program. As the Committee's waiver expires shortly,

and a firm date for the resumption of in-person classes cannot be determined, GUCL seeks to comply with Rule 4.164 by submitting this Major Change Request.

Contact Dean Darrin Greitzer at 818-247-0770 or dgreitzer@glendalelaw.edu with questions.

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