



The State Bar *of California*

OPEN AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM O-100

DECEMBER 2021

COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

THE COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS OF THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

October 15, 2021

Zoom Meeting
State Bar of California Offices

A zoom meeting of the Committee of Bar Examiners of The State Bar of California convened in open session at 9:01 a.m., Friday, October 15, 2021, Chair Alexander C. Lawrence, Jr. presiding. Officers and members present were: Chair Alexander C. Lawrence, Jr., Vice-Chair Paul A. Kramer, James A. Bolton, Ph.D., Robert S. Brody, Michael Cao, M.D., Alex H. Chan, James H. Efting, Kareem Gongora, Dolores Heisinger, Michael A. Iseri, Larry Kaplan, Bethany J. Peak, Vincent Reyes, Judge Shelly Torrealba, and David A. Torres, Members. Member Judge Shelly Torrealba left the meeting at 3:23 p.m. Members Judge James E. Herman, Esther Lin, and Don Ajené Wilcoxson were absent. State Bar staff members in attendance were: Leah Wilson, Executive Director, Donna Hershkowitz, Chief of Programs; Amy C. Nuñez, Director III, Admissions; Audrey Ching, Assistant Director, Admissions, Lisa Cummins, Program Manager III, Examinations; Tammy Campbell, Program Manager II, Operations and Management; Tara Clark, Program Manager II, Moral Character; Natalie Leonard, Principal Program Analyst, Educational Standards; Kim Wong, Administrative Supervisor, Admissions; David Lane, Senior Attorney, Moral Character; James Chang, Attorney IV, General Counsel; Brady Dewar, Attorney III, General Counsel; and Devan McFarland, Sr. Administrative Assistant, Admissions. The open session portion was concluded at approximately 12:20 p.m. The meeting went into closed session at approximately 12:51 p.m. The closed session concluded at 3:23 p.m. The meeting went back into open session at approximately 3:24 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Committee of Bar Examiners received 2 written public comments and 2 public comments pertaining to the technical issues with ExamSoft during the July 2021 California

Bar Exam, and 1 public comment pertaining to the National Conference of Bar Examiners and the remote testing for the February 2022 California Bar Exam.

2021-2022 COMMITTEE YEAR SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the Subcommittee assignments for the 2021 – 2022 Committee year be received and filed.

Moved by Gongora, seconded by Heisinger.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes

Brody – yes

Cao – yes

Chan – yes

Efting – yes

Gongora – yes

Heisinger – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes

Peak – yes

Reyes – yes

2021-2022 LAW SCHOOL COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE OF STATE BAR ACCREDITED AND REGISTERED SCHOOLS OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

It was by common consent agreed that the 2021-2022 Law School Council and Committee of State Bar Accredited and Registered Schools Officers and Members be received and filed.

AUGUST 20, 2021 COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the minutes taken during the public session of the meeting on August 20, 2021, be approved.

Moved by Brody, seconded by Cao.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes

Brody – yes

Cao – yes

Chan – yes

Efting – yes

Gongora – yes

Heisinger – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes
Peak – abstain
Reyes – yes
Judge Torrealba – yes
David Torres – yes

AUGUST 2021 STATISTICAL INDICATORS

It was by common consent agreed that the August 2021 Key Indicators for the Office of Admissions/Committee of Bar Examiners be received and filed.

SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 3-4, 2021 COMMITTEE MEETING

It was by common consent agreed that the schedule for the December 3-4, 2021 Meeting, which will be held via a Zoom webinar, be received and filed.

EXAMINATIONS

TECHNICAL REPORT ON THE JUNE 2021 FIRST-YEAR LAW STUDENTS' EXAMINATION

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that that the technical report on the June 2021 First-Year Law Students' Examination dated August 20, 2021, which was prepared by Roger Bolus, Ph.D., be approved, and thereafter received and filed.

Moved by Peak, seconded by Kramer.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Brody – yes
Cao – yes
Chan – yes
Efting – yes
Gongora – yes
Heisinger – yes
Iseri – yes
Kramer – yes
Peak – yes
Reyes – yes
David Torres – yes

PROPOSED 2021 – 2022 EXAMINATIONS GOALS

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the proposed 2020 – 2021 Examinations goals be approved.

Moved by Torres, seconded by Reyes.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Brody – yes
Cao – yes
Chan – yes
Efting – yes
Gongora – yes
Heisinger – yes
Iseri – yes
Kaplan – yes
Kramer – yes
Peak – yes
Reyes – yes
David Torres – yes

OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

REPORT ON THE JUNE 2021 FIRST-YEAR LAW STUDENTS' EXAM COST-ANALYSIS

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the June 2021 First-Year Law Students' Examination Cost Analysis be approved.

Moved by Gongora, seconded by Torres.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes
Cao – yes
Chan – yes
Efting – yes
Gongora – yes
Heisinger – yes
Iseri – yes
Kaplan – yes
Kramer – yes
Peak – yes
Reyes – yes
David Torres – yes

PROPOSED 2020 – 2021 OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT GOALS

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the 2020 – 2021 Operations and Management goals and accomplishments be approved.

Moved by Torres, seconded by Peak.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes
Cao – yes
Chan – yes
Efting – yes

Gongora – yes
Heisinger – yes
Iseri – yes
Kaplan – yes
Peak – yes
Reyes – yes
David Torres – yes

EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

MAJOR CHANGE – EMPIRE COLLEGE OF LAW – EXTEND OPTION FOR ONLINE TEACHING

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the Committee of Bar Examiners receives and files Empire College of Law's Request for Major Change seeking to add the option to deliver JD classes simultaneously in-person and via videoconference, as set forth in Attachment A, and grants the request effective immediately.

Moved by Torres, seconded by Peak.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes
Cao – yes
Chan – yes
Efiting – yes
Gongora – yes
Heisinger – yes
Iseri – yes
Kaplan – yes
Peak – yes
Reyes – yes
David Torres – yes

MAJOR CHANGE – PACIFIC COAST UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW – MODIFY JD PROGRAM FROM QUARTERS TO SEMESTERS

No action was taken on the Pacific Coast University School of Law's Request for Major Change to modify JD program from quarters to semesters. It was deferred to the December 2021 Committee meeting for further consideration.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED GUIDELINES REGARDING ACCREDITED LAW SCHOOL CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS, OUT-OF-STATE SERVICES, IDENTIFICATION OF ACCREDITING AGENCY IN SPACE-CONSTRAINED SITUATIONS, RECORDKEEPING OBLIGATIONS, AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR JOINTLY ACCREDITED LAW SCHOOLS

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the Committee of Bar Examiners approves the proposed guidelines for accredited law school rules as set forth in Attachment B, to become effective January 1, 2022.

Moved by Torres, seconded by Brody.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes

Brody – yes

Cao – yes

Chan – yes

Efting – yes

Gongora – yes

Heisinger – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes

Peak – yes

Reyes – yes

Torres – yes

RECOMMENDATION FOR UPDATES TO ACCREDITED LAW SCHOOL FEES

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the Committee of Bar Examiners recommends that the Board of Trustees amend the Accredited Law School fees as set forth in Attachment B.

Moved by Brody, seconded by Reyes.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes

Brody – yes

Cao – yes

Chan – yes

Efting – yes

Gongora – yes

Heisinger – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes

Peak – yes

Reyes – yes

REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES AT ACCREDITED AND UNACCREDITED LAW SCHOOLS

The Committee received the report on administrative updates at accredited and unaccredited law schools, including the following information: In July 2021, Taft Law School announced that it has stopped accepting applications to its non-bar qualifying Juris Doctor Executive Track program, though it will teach out the current students. William Howard Taft University, a separate institution based in Colorado, will begin offering a similar program; that program will be regulated by that university's accreditor rather than the Committee of

Bar Examiners; from Peoples College of Law of the appointment of Juan Manuel Sariñana as the Dean in August 2021; from American International School of Law, its headquarters office moved to a new location at 17762 Cowan, Irvine, CA 92614 in October 2021; and from John F. Kennedy School of Law, its administrative office from La Jolla to 9388 Lightwave Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123.

PROPOSED 2020 – 2021 EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS GOALS

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the 2020 – 2021 Educational Standards goals and accomplishments be approved.

Moved by Torres, seconded by Gongora.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes

Cao – yes

Chan – yes

Efting – yes

Gongora – yes

Heisinger – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes

Peak – yes

Reyes – yes

Torres – yes

MORAL CHARACTER

PROPOSED 2020 – 2021 MORAL CHARACTER GOALS

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the 2020 – 2021 Moral Character goals and accomplishments be approved.

Moved by Peak, seconded by Iseri.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes

Cao – yes

Chan – yes

Efting – yes

Gongora – yes

Heisinger – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes

Peak – yes

Reyes – yes

Torres – yes

ADJOURNMENT

Having concluded all the business scheduled for consideration during the open and closed sessions of the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 4:04 p.m., Friday, October 15, 2021.

TO: THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA, COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS
DATED: July 26, 2021
RE: MAJOR CHANGE REQUEST
FROM: EMPIRE COLLEGE SCHOOL OF LAW

RE: USE OF DISTANCE LEARNING POST DECEMBER 31, 2021

Subject of this request: Continued use of Zoom video-conferencing platform for administering law school program after December 31, 2021.

Reason for this request: The CBE previously granted a waiver of certain rules and guidelines governing California Accredited Law Schools in order to allow them to continue teaching through distance learning modalities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The most recent extension of that waiver expires on December 31, 2021, and the CBE has advised that anything done under that waiver which a law school anticipates will continue beyond that date requires approval of a Major Change Request.

The Aspect of the Program Subject to Change: Empire wishes to continue to allow some remote participation in class, by both teachers and students, beyond December 31, 2021.

Discussion: Empire is a residential law school and had only engaged in teaching via Zoom because of the pandemic, beginning that approach in March 2020. Earlier this year, anticipating improvement in the impact of the pandemic, and anticipating changes in the restrictions imposed by State and County officials, Empire surveyed its students and professors on their requirements/needs/concerns before coming back to campus. While most are anxious to return, and while restrictions in Sonoma County are expected to change over time, we anticipate that there will be both professors and students who will still be either unable or unwilling to return to campus by January 1, 2022, depending upon the state of the pandemic at that time.

We are fully expecting and are planning to return to campus by January 1, 2022, and hopefully earlier by the start of our Fall trimester in late August, 2021. But given the anticipated need to continue to serve professors and/or students remotely beyond December 31, 2022, Empire has invested thousands of dollars in more advanced camera, microphone and computer technology to enhance the “Zoom” experience and more accurately portray the classroom to remote participants. All of its classrooms are being outfitted with newly purchased OwlLab equipment, new monitors/TV screens and accompanying software. We have tested the equipment and it works extremely well in transmitting a classroom setting more realistically than one might accomplish using only a laptop or other conventional webcam. The OwlLab camera and microphones will be centrally located in the rooms; they rotate to focus on the speaker. The large TV monitors enhance the classroom visibility of remote participants as well. In short, this will be as close as we can come with the affordable technology in duplicating the classroom experience and interaction for those few students and/or professors who will not be able to be on campus. We expect to have this equipment up and running for the 2021 Fall trimester; we want to be able to continue using it indefinitely.

While the pandemic has been the driving force behind the decision to teach remotely, it has become clear that many goals are served by having this capability. Even when the concerns over infection are down to a minimum, having high quality remote instruction available will serve our students in a variety of ways, as discussed within the U.S. Department of Education handbook referenced below. These include but are not limited to creating an enhanced ability to measure outcomes and student/student and student/professor interaction, but also by addressing interruptions in their lives caused by sudden illnesses, surgeries or deaths in the family, sudden lack of child-care and other unforeseen emergencies impacting their abilities to personally attend classes. We will be better able to serve all our students with this continued technology even well beyond COVID-19 immediate concerns as it will also enhance our ability to serve students who simply may not have the financial means and/or home/work situations to allow them to commute every day.

We do not expect any reduction in either the level of education, the professor-student interaction, or the other support services we provide our students because of this change. To the contrary, the ability to record certain classes, like Moot Court and Trial Practice, will allow for improved study of student performance and enhance professor feedback, and having the ability to create digital “break out” rooms will enhance student participation and collaboration, both of which are key components to their success in law school.

Empire’s Plan is Consistent With the U.S. Department of Education Recommendations. The U.S. Department of Education just published its third volume of its ED COVID-19 HANDBOOK, this one sub-titled: “Strategies for Safe Operation and Addressing the Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education Students, Faculty and Staff.” To our knowledge, this is the first comprehensive set of government recommendations and guidelines specific to institutions of higher learning (IHEs) and their ongoing response to the pandemic. A few quotes from the handbook’s recommendations are instructive:

“Though many IHEs are working to safely bring students back to in-person learning, the need for high-quality online options is here to stay. Given this reality, it is essential that IHEs invest in professional learning opportunities tailored to the digital context.” (p.19)

And while recognizing that on-line instruction has increased feelings of social isolation, the publication also acknowledges there are positive ways to use technology to increase student engagement and participation:

“For example, consider how instructors might use technology-based tools to foster an active learning environment where students have an opportunity to collaborate, engage in inquiry-based learning, and produce dynamic content. In a digital space, instructors can experiment with different participation techniques that may offer opportunities for more students to contribute their perspectives, and for students to participate in different ways. When synchronous, this might involve the use of small group breakout sessions, in-class polls, and the chat feature.” (p. 21)

These last few examples quoted mirror the inquiry-based interactive law school environment. We anticipate that the widespread use of our new technology will enhance the

professors' ability to find a variety of ways to run their classes, thus improving the level of education for all.

Current Status of Classroom Preparation: Our classrooms have all undergone facelifts this summer while classes have been taught via Zoom. We have new carpeting, new paint, and soon to be installed new OwlLab equipment. We plan to have in-person instruction begin August 30, 2021, county restrictions permitting, and will be able to optimize our new equipment's effectiveness during the Fall 2021 trimester.

Conclusion: We know most people will return to campus as soon as they are allowed to, but some will not feel safe in doing so. Even so, institutions of higher education are expected to have to engage digital instruction beyond the lifespan of the current pandemic. The pandemic has impacted our communities in different ways, and many of our students and their families have been hit hard by it. We want to maintain the ability to honor the desires of some who will not feel safe or otherwise capable to return even when others do. While most of our students and professors are expected to return to campus as soon as it's reasonably safe to do so, we do not feel it appropriate at this stage to predict our ability to require 100% to return by January 1, 2022. To best serve them all, and to stay abreast of what will only be an increase in distance education programs in all educational spheres, we have invested in superior equipment to enhance the synchronous remote experience.

Requested Approval: That Empire College School of Law be allowed to continue its synchronous delivery of its curriculum which began in March of 2020 with its newly obtained OwlLab technology, to be administered as part of its residential program beginning January 1, 2022 and continuing thereafter until further notice from the Committee.
Respectfully Submitted,

Brian J. Purtill, Dean
Empire College School of Law
Santa Rosa, CA

**STAFF PROPOSAL RECOMMENDING MODIFICATIONS TO
CSBARS PROPOSED GUIDELINES FOR RULES FOR ACCREDITED LAW SCHOOLS**

Reference Rule 4.147 (C)

Core accreditation requirements and jointly accredited status requirements

1. A law school that is jointly accredited under Rule 4.147(B), and within the meaning of Rule 4.105(F), must comply with the following:
 - a. fees required by Rule 4.110;
 - b. location and compliance with applicable law required by Rule 4.160(A)(1) and Rule 4.160(A)(2) and communication disclosures required by Rules 4.160(A)(3), (4), and (6);
 - c. student success standards required by Rule 4.160(B);
 - d. diversity, equity and inclusion policies and practices required by Rule 4.160(C)
 - e. practice-based skills and competencies curriculum required by Rule 4.160(D)(2);
 - f. financial responsibility required by Rule 4.160(D)(3);
 - g. curriculum required by Rule 4.160(D)(4);
 - h. Minimum Cumulative Pass Rate (MPR) required by Rule 4.160(D)(6);
 - i. periodic reporting required by Rule 4.161; and

~~*Proposed Guideline: A jointly accredited law school can fulfill 4.147 (C)(i), by submitting designated periodic reports for jointly accredited law schools.~~

- j. the orders, directions, and notices required by the State Bar pursuant to these rules.
2. The accreditation standards listed in Rule 4.147(C)(1) are the core requirements of accreditation as that term is used elsewhere in these rules.

Reference Rule 4.160 (A)

A. Consumer Protection and Transparency: A law school shall ensure that prospective and current students are timely informed of the rights, responsibilities, and limitations of attending the law school, the resources and requirements needed to earn a JD degree, and the law school's student outcomes with respect to retention, licensure, and career outcomes.

1. Location: A law school must maintain its primary administrative office and all law school campus locations in California and operate in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

***Proposed Guideline:** As long as a law school maintains its primary administrative office and all law school campus locations in California, a school ~~does not violate the rule if it may host or stores its software or electronic records are hosted or stored outside of California, or if it offers some student services via offices or personnel located outside of California, so long as the records and services are available at the law school's administrative offices and otherwise reasonably available to students and alumni.~~

2. Compliance with laws: While the State Bar will not warrant a law school's compliance with laws, evidence of violation of laws or regulations may result in a determination of noncompliance with these rules.

3. Disclosure: A law school shall publish, on its Consumer Information webpage, a disclosure statement, revised annually and submitted with the Periodic Compliance Report, that complies with California Business and Professions Code section 6061.7(a) in a format prescribed by the State Bar. The Committee may also require disclosure of additional information, including statistics on retention and diversity, when to do so is not in conflict with 4.160(A)(6).

4. Statement of Limitation on Bar Examination Eligibility: A law school shall publish, on its home page, the following Statement of Consumer Information, as well as on the Consumer Information Page, Application and Enrollment Agreement:

Study at, or graduation from, this law school may not qualify a student to take the bar examination or be licensed to practice law in jurisdictions other than California. A student who intends to seek licensure to practice law outside of California at any time during their career should contact the admitting authority for information regarding its education and licensure requirements prior to enrolling at this law school.

5. Refund Policy: A law school must adopt a written refund policy that is fair and reasonable. A law school must provide refunds in accordance with its written refund policy, accompanied by a clear explanation of the method of calculation, within 45 days after a student withdraws from a class or a program, or within 45 days of the law school's discontinuing a course or educational program in which a student is enrolled.

6. Public Communications: All information that a law school reports, publicizes or distributes shall be accurate and not misleading to a reasonable law school student, applicant or member of the public. A law school shall use due diligence in obtaining and verifying such information.

a. A law school must not mislead prospective students as to their reasonable prospects of admission, obtaining a degree in the program in which they seek to enroll, their ability to qualify for or be licensed by the bar in any jurisdiction, the cost of the requirements for obtaining a degree, or the financial support available through loans or scholarships for their course of study.

b. Whenever the words "Accredited" or "Provisionally Accredited" appear in law school communications in relation to qualification to take the California Bar Examination or admission to the practice of law in California, they must be accompanied by words clearly indicating that such accreditation is by the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California.

~~*Proposed Guideline: Where a law school employs social media or other platforms for communications whose space constraints make it impractical or impossible to state in full that accreditation (or provisional accreditation) in relation to qualification to take the California Bar Examination or admission to the practice of law in California is by the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California, it shall be sufficient for purposes of the rule that the communication provide a hyperlink to a webpage or other document that contains the full required disclosure.~~

A law school that uses social media or other platforms for communication may provide a prominent hyperlink, in a font size consistent with the majority of the page, to a webpage or other document that contains the full required disclosure when space constraints make it impractical to post the full disclosure regarding accreditation on the communication platform.

7. Student Privacy: A law school must protect student privacy and the confidentiality of student communications and records in accordance with the law. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a law school must not disclose, without a student's consent, grades, grade average, class schedule, address, telephone number, or other personally identified information, unless:

- a. required by law, including administrative subpoena or court order;
- b. requested by the State Bar;
- c. designated "directory information" and students are advised of its designation as such;
- d. requested by another accrediting agency; or
- e. required in case of emergency.

8. Academic Standards: A law school must adopt and timely publish written academic standards, including:

- a. standards for examinations and grading;
- b. the courses, units, grades, and grade point average required for good standing, retention, advancement, and graduation;
- c. the terms of the student probation policy, including requiring students advanced on probation to be academically disqualified if they do not meet

- the law school's requirements for advancement in good standing and retention after no more than one year on probation;
- d. the circumstances under which a student is subject to disqualification for academic deficiency;
- e. policy on course repetition which includes a prohibition on earning credit more than once for substantially similar coursework;
- f. prompt return of grades;
- g. policy on review and appeal of grades; and
- h. policy for authenticating student work.

9. Student Discipline: A law school must have a written policy for the imposition of student discipline and that policy must be fair.

- a. The law school's policy must include, but is not limited to, cancellation of a student's score on an examination or assignment, denial of course credit, suspension, and dismissal.
- b. The law school's policy must include reasonable notice to the student of the discipline or action to be taken and provide an opportunity for the student to be heard, at the student's election, either in person, or in writing before a panel or members of the faculty and/or administration. An in-person hearing may be held electronically, at the law school's discretion.
- c. The requirements of these rules for a law school's student discipline policy do not apply to academic probation or disqualification, other failures to meet academic standards, or failure to pay tuition, fees, or charges billed to the student.

10. Compensation Based on Number of Applicants, Enrollment and Students

Prohibited: A law school may not base the compensation paid any employee of the law school engaged in work related to advertising, marketing, and admissions on the number of persons enrolled in any class or on the number of persons applying for admission to or registering to enroll in the law school.

11. Maintaining Accurate and Complete Records: A law school must maintain complete and accurate records of its programs and operations pursuant to a written plan readily accessible to its administration, to students as appropriate, and to the Committee, in a manner properly secured and backed up to prevent or recover from loss. The law school must also maintain sufficient records to demonstrate its compliance from its last two periodic inspections to the present and maintain student grade records and Committee correspondence permanently.

~~***Proposed Guideline: Schools must maintain records relevant to addressing any areas of non-compliance identified in the prior two inspections or longer if directed by the CBE. All other data generally need only be maintained for a period of five years.**~~

12. Written Notice of Changes to Policies: A law school shall timely provide applicants, students and faculty with written notice of changes to policies that may affect them.

Reference Rule 4.160 (D)

D. Preparation for Licensure and Professionalism: A law school shall prepare JD students to become licensed attorneys and to practice law in an ethical and professional manner. The JD degree must be granted only upon completion of a law program that satisfies the educational requirements for a student to take the California Bar Examination.

1. Access to Faculty: A law school must provide a policy for students to access the faculty, whether through scheduled office hours, regular or electronic mail, chat rooms, telephone contact or other means.
2. Practice-Based Skills and Competencies
 - a. The law school must require that each student enrolled in its JD Degree program satisfactorily completes a minimum of six semester units (or their equivalent) of course work designed to teach practice-based skills and competency training. Such competency training must teach and develop those skills needed by a newly licensed attorney to practice law in an ethical and competent manner.
 - b. A law school must provide the opportunity for students in the JD degree program to complete a minimum of 15 semester units (or their equivalent) of practice-based skills and competency training. A law school is encouraged to provide externship, clinical, law review, and similar experiences to enrich the legal education of its students.
 - c. A law school must provide the opportunity for LLM students who are enrolled in the law school to qualify to take the California Bar Examination to complete a minimum of five semester units (or their equivalent) of practice-based skills and competency training.
3. Expenditure of Assets and Funds to Provide a Sound Program of Education: A law school must use its assets and funds, including tuition, fees, and other charges collected from, or on behalf of, students, to provide a program of legal education reasonably calculated to lead to licensure in the law. A law school must establish reasonable safeguards against financial fraud and other financial improprieties. The Committee reserves the right to require a law school to submit an audited financial statement prepared by an independent certified public accountant
4. Curriculum: There is no prescribed program of legal education. An effective program of legal education for the JD degree will include, but not be limited to all of the following:
 - a. a balanced and comprehensive course of study with subjects and materials presented in an organized and logical manner and sequence that satisfy the legal education requirements to take the California Bar Exam;
 - b. learning experiences that support the acculturation of program graduates to the mores and values of the legal profession, including service, preparation, responsiveness, confidentiality, excellence, civility, professionalism, and ethics;
 - c. knowledge of process and skills for legal research and writing, which shall include access to legal research resources adequate to accomplish this requirement; and
 - d. the subjects tested by the California Bar Examination, including a course in Professional Responsibility that all students must complete and pass.

5. Academic Program Plan: A law school must adopt and maintain a written plan for its academic program.

***Proposed Guideline:** The topics to be covered in the plan should include but need not be limited to: (1) Academic Program Description; (2) Current Curriculum; (3) Proposed Curriculum Changes; (4) Annual Educational Goals and Long Range Program Goals; (5) Human Resources, Equipment, Supplies, Software and Other Resources Needed to Implement Annual Program Goals; and (6) Learning Outcomes Assessment Methods and Calendar.

6. Minimum Cumulative Pass Rate: The law school must maintain a minimum, cumulative bar examination pass rate (MPR) of 40 percent in each reporting period.

a. The “reporting period” covers the five most recent 12-month periods (August 1 through July 31) prior to the calendar year in which the MPR is reported to the Committee.

b. A law school’s MPR is to be calculated as a fraction that is the sum of all applicants who took the bar examination during the reporting period and who passed any administration of the California Bar Examination during the reporting period or the first February administration after the reporting period that was no more than 10 administrations after the taker’s graduation (the numerator) divided by the sum of all takers for the reporting period who, whether they passed or failed, took any administration of the California Bar Examination taker’s graduation (the denominator), with the resulting numeral being expressed as a percentage. The MPR for a law school with one or more branch campuses is to be calculated and reported as the combined rate of all such campuses.

7. Academic Credit for Bar Examination Review: A law school may offer and grant academic credit for a bar examination review or preparation course. A law school may also require successful completion of a bar examination review or preparation course as a condition of graduation.

8. Acquiescence Required to Award Professional Law Degrees in

Addition to the JD Degree: In order to award any professional law degree in addition to the JD degree, a law school must apply to and obtain the advance acquiescence of the Committee, and must agree to use the disclosures prescribed by the State Bar in the law school’s communications and enrollment agreements. As provided in rule 4.105(L) of these rules, a “professional law degree” is the Bachelor of Laws (LLB), Executive JD Non-Bar-Qualifying Degree (EJD), Juris Doctor (JD), Masters of Law (LLM), Master of Legal Studies (MLS), or other post-graduate degree.

TITLE 4, DIVISION 2
ACCREDITED LAW SCHOOL FEES

*Fees previously adopted by
the Board of Trustees or mandated by statute.*

*Amended effective **January 1, 2022.***

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
4.110(A) & (B)	Fees for services	\$275/hour Total cost: Time and Expenses	Not applicable
4.110(C)	Travel Expenses (per State Bar Travel Reimbursement policy)	Actual Cost	Not applicable
4.121(A)	Application for Provisional Accreditation fee	Deposit: \$750 Total Cost: Time and Expenses	Not applicable
4.121(D)	Provisional Accreditation Inspection and Report fee (plus expenses per Rule 4.110(C))	Deposit: \$750 Total Cost: Time and Expenses	Not applicable
4.140-4.143	Application for Accreditation fee	Deposit: \$750 Total Cost: Time and Expenses	Not applicable
4.147(B) & (C)	Application for Jointly Accredited Status fee	Deposit: \$750 Total Cost: Time and Expenses	Not Applicable
4.144-4.146	Accreditation Inspection and Report fee (plus expenses per Rule 4.110(C))	Deposit: \$5,000 Total Cost: Time and Expenses	Not applicable
4.161	Periodic Compliance Report fee for Accredited and Jointly Accredited Law Schools and Deadline	\$2,170	November 15
4.161	Late Filing of Periodic Compliance Report fee	\$350	Not applicable
4.161(A)	Annual Branch Campus fee	\$1,000	November 15
4.161(A)	Annual Satellite Campus fee	\$800	November 15
4.124, 4.144, 4.162, 4.172(D)	Periodic or Other Inspections (plus expenses per Rule 4.110(C))	Total Cost: Time and Expenses Annual Prepayment: \$4,400	Not applicable
4.121, 4.141, 4.163	Self-Study fee	Deposit: \$750 Total cost: Time and Expenses	Not applicable

4.109, 4.165	Application for Major Change or Waiver fee	Deposit: \$250 Total cost: Time and Expenses	Not applicable
4.165	Major Change Inspection and Report fee (plus expenses per Rule 4.110(C))	Deposit: \$2,000 Total cost: Time and Expenses	Not applicable
4.170(B)	Response to Notice of Noncompliance fee	Deposit: \$800 Total cost: Time and Expenses	Not applicable
4.170(B)(2)	Site Inspection Regarding Notice of Noncompliance fee (plus expenses per Rule 4.110(C)), including Probation or Other Monitoring	Deposit: \$2,000 Total cost: Time and Expenses	Not applicable