

### LSX Rules/Policies Updates – Results

For reference, we've drafted proposed edits to the Legal Specialization (LS) Rules, and any other areas what may need to be, or should be, updated as a result of the Rules update. Proposed edits are provided in the following format:

<b>Source:</b>	<i>Where/what it is</i>
<b>Link:</b>	<i>Link to the source</i>
<b>Original Content:</b>	<i>Exact copy of reference material(s)</i>
<b>Source:</b>	<i>Admissions Rule(s) reference, if any</i>
<b>Link:</b>	<i>Link to Admissions source</i>
<b>Original Content:</b>	<i>Exact copy of Admissions reference material(s)</i>
<b>Proposed New Content:</b>	<i>proposed edit/change to LS reference material(s) in tracked changes</i>

### LS Rules

<b>Source:</b>	3.110 Certification requirements in general
<b>Link:</b>	<a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/rules/Rules_Title3_Div2-Ch2_LegSpec.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/rules/Rules_Title3_Div2-Ch2_LegSpec.pdf</a>
<b>Original Content:</b>	(B) An applicant must submit the application within eighteen months of the date on which the applicant took the examination. An applicant may request an extension of up to eighteen months for completion of all requirements. Requests are granted for good cause shown.
<b>Source:</b>	Admissions Rules - 4.17 Admission certification and time limit
<b>Link:</b>	<a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/rules/Rules_Title4_Div1-Adm-Prac-Law.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/rules/Rules_Title4_Div1-Adm-Prac-Law.pdf</a>
<b>Original Content:</b>	<p><b>Rule 4.17 Admission certification and time limit</b></p> <p>(A) No later than five years from the last day of administration of the California Bar Examination the applicant passes,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(1) an applicant must meet all requirements for admission for certification by the Committee to the California Supreme Court; and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(2) upon receipt of an order from the Court, take the attorney's oath and meet State Bar registration requirements to be eligible to practice law in California.</p> <p>(B) The State Bar may extend this five-year limit for good cause shown by clear and convincing evidence in a particular case but not for an applicant's negligence or the result of an applicant having received a negative moral character determination.</p> <p>(C) An applicant may request a review by the Committee of the State Bar's decision within 30 days of service of the notice of decision.</p>
<b>Proposed New Content:</b>	(B) An applicant must submit the application within <del>eighteen months of the date on which the applicant took the examination</del> <u>five years from the last day of administration of the Legal Specialist Examination the applicant passes. If an applicant fails to apply for initial certification</u>

	<p>before the five-year period, they must take and repass the exam again in order to be eligible to apply.</p> <p><del>(C) An applicant may request an extension of up to eighteen months for completion of all requirements. Requests are granted for good cause shown.</del> The State Bar may extend this five-year limit for good cause shown by clear and convincing evidence in a particular case but not for an applicant's negligence or the result of an applicant having received discipline affecting their State Bar status.</p>
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<b>Source:</b>	3.116 Examination
<b>Link:</b>	<a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/rules/Rules_Title3_Div2-Ch2_LegSpec.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/rules/Rules_Title3_Div2-Ch2_LegSpec.pdf</a>
<b>Original Content:</b>	<p>(B) Results reported to applicants are final. Applicants are not entitled to receive their examination answers or to see their scores.</p> <p>(C) Upon approval of a new area of legal specialization by the Board of Trustees, the State Bar may approve for a period of no more than two years satisfactory completion of one or more alternative tasks in lieu of a written examination.</p>
<b>Proposed New Content:</b>	<p>(B) Results  <u>(1) reported to applicants are final.</u> <del>Applicants are not entitled to receive their examination answers or to see their scores;</del> and  <u>(2) are valid for five years from the date of the exam.</u></p> <p><del>(C) Applicants are not entitled to receive their examination answers.</del></p> <p><del>(D) Successful applicants are not entitled to see their scores.</del></p> <p><del>(E)</del> Upon approval of a new area of legal specialization by the Board of Trustees, the State Bar may approve for a period of no more than two years satisfactory completion of one or more alternative tasks in lieu of a written examination.</p>

**These other areas should also be updated as a result of any new Rule/Policy changes**

<b>Source:</b>	LS Website - Becoming a Certified Specialist
<b>Link:</b>	<a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Attorneys/Legal-Specialization/Becoming-a-Certified-Specialist">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Attorneys/Legal-Specialization/Becoming-a-Certified-Specialist</a>
<b>Original Content:</b>	<p><b>Examination results</b></p> <p>Exam results are valid up to three years after the exam. The 2019 Legal Specialist Examination results were sent via email on March 13, 2020, to the preferred email address identified on your <a href="#">Admissions Applicant Portal</a>.</p> <p>If you passed the 2017 examination, you have until April 27, 2019, to submit your post-examination application or request an extension for good cause through the Applicant Portal. Extensions cannot be granted beyond January 2021. The most common reason an extension is requested is that a person has not yet completed the full five years in practice required for a review of the application.</p>
<b>Source:</b>	FYLSX Exam Results

<b>Link:</b>	<a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Admissions/Examinations/First-Year-Law-Students-Examination/Exam-Results">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Admissions/Examinations/First-Year-Law-Students-Examination/Exam-Results</a>
<b>Original Content:</b>	<p><b>Examination Results</b></p> <p>Exam answers of applicants who completed the First-Year Law Students' Exam will be posted to the Applicant Portal approximately six weeks after the exam. Results from the June administration of the First-Year Law Students' Exam are released in mid-August and from the October administration in mid-December.</p>
<b>Proposed New Content:</b>	<p><b>Examination results</b></p> <p>Exam results are valid up to <del>three</del> <u>five</u> years after the exam. <u>Exam results of applicants who completed the Legal Specialist Exam will be posted to the Applicant Portal approximately five months after the exam. Results from the October administration of the Legal Specialist Exam are released in mid-March following the exam.</u></p> <p><u>If you passed the 2017 examination, you have until April 27, 2019, to submit your post-examination application or request an extension for good cause through the Applicant Portal. Extensions cannot be granted beyond January 2021. The most common reason an extension is requested is that a person has not yet completed the full five years in practice required for a review of the application.</u></p>

<b>Source:</b>	LSX Application (Declaration)
<b>Link:</b>	<a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/LSX_Registration_Form_R.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/LSX_Registration_Form_R.pdf</a>
<b>Original Content:</b>	<p>I hereby certify that I understand that I must comply with all of the requirements of Title 3, Division 2, Chapter 2 of the Rules of the State Bar of California (Legal Specialization Rules) and that passing the exam is the first step in the certification process. If I am successful on this exam, I will be required to file an application for certification with the appropriate fee demonstrating compliance with all other certification requirements of the legal specialization program, including education, tasks and experience, and reference recommendations, on or before January 31, 2025, before my application can be considered by the CBLS.</p> <p>I am aware that the requirements for becoming a certified specialist are set forth in the Rules and Standards, and that the CBLS recommends that I review these rules prior to applying to be sure that I can meet the certification requirements by January 31, 2025. After that date, the examination results will no longer be valid, and I will need to take the exam again to continue with the certification process.</p>
<b>Proposed New Content:</b>	<p>I hereby certify that I understand that I must comply with all of the requirements of Title 3, Division 2, Chapter 2 of the Rules of the State Bar of California (Legal Specialization Rules) and that passing the exam is the first step in the certification process. If I am successful on this exam, I will be required to file an application for certification with the appropriate fee demonstrating compliance with all other certification requirements of the legal specialization program, including education, tasks and experience, and reference recommendations, on or before <u>October 24, 2028</u><del>January 31, 2025</del>, before my application can be considered by the CBLS.</p>

	I am aware that the requirements for becoming a certified specialist are set forth in the Rules and Standards, and that the CBLS recommends that I review these rules prior to applying to be sure that I can meet the certification requirements by <del>October 24, 2028</del> <u>January 31, 2025</u> . After that date, the examination results will no longer be valid, and I will need to take the exam again to continue with the certification process.
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<b>Source:</b>	Post-Exam Applications (Cover/Instructions)
<b>Link:</b>	<a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Admiralty Post Exam App.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Admiralty Post Exam App.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Appellate Post Exam App.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Appellate Post Exam App.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Bankruptcy Post Exam App.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Bankruptcy Post Exam App.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Criminal Post Exam App.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Criminal Post Exam App.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Estate Post Exam App.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Estate Post Exam App.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Family Post Exam App.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Family Post Exam App.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Franchise Post Exam App.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Franchise Post Exam App.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Immigration Post Exam App.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Immigration Post Exam App.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Legal Malpractice Post Exam App.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Legal Malpractice Post Exam App.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Taxation Post Exam App.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Taxation Post Exam App.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Workers Compensation Post Exam App.pdf">https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/ls/Workers Compensation Post Exam App.pdf</a>
<b>Original Content:</b>	<p><b>When is my application due?</b></p> <p>Applicants who have successfully passed the Legal Specialist Examination must submit this application by <b>April 24</b> in the year after their results were released (i.e. if passing the 2019 exam, results were released in 2020, so the application will be due April 24, 2021), or submit a request for an extension to <a href="mailto:legalspec@calbar.ca.gov">legalspec@calbar.ca.gov</a> by the due date.</p> <p>The most common reason for an extension is to gain the five required years of practice in the specialty. Extensions cannot be granted beyond <b>January 31</b> in the third year after receiving results (i.e. if passing the 2019 exam, results were released in 2020, so the maximum extension date is January 31, 2023).</p>
<b>Proposed New Content:</b>	<p><b>When is my application due?</b></p> <p><del>Exam results are valid for five years from the date of the exam. Applicants who have successfully passed the Legal Specialist Examination must submit this application by April 24 in the year after their results were released within five years of the date of their exam (i.e. if passing the 2019 exam, results were released in 2020 you passed the exam on October 26, 2021, so the this application will be due April 24, 2021 October 26, 2026), or submit a request for an extension to legalspec@calbar.ca.gov by the due date.</del></p> <p><del>The most common reason for an extension is to gain the five required years of practice in the specialty. Extensions cannot be granted beyond January 31 in the third year after receiving results (i.e. if passing the 2019 exam, results were released in 2020, so the maximum extension date is January 31, 2023) Applicants who fail to apply within the five-year period must again take and repass the exam in order to be eligible to apply for initial certification.</del></p>