



The State Bar *of California*

Admissions Rules Revisions: Request to Circulate for Public Comment Testing Accommodations

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Board of Trustees, May 18-19, 2023

Rules for Review

**Rules to Board in May
2023: Request to
Circulate for Public
Comment**

- Testing Accommodations Rules (Chapter 7)
- Back to Board in November 2023 for adoption



Background: Testing Accommodations Chapter 7

- Framework created to update the testing accommodations process; new forms created
- Streamlined process: reduce need for applicants to secure extensive documentation/evaluations; reduce costs for applicants; shorten the timeline for determinations
- Reliance on prior testing accommodations; documentation narrowly tailored; deference to applicant's qualified professional who has assessed the applicant



Modified Rule Revisions After Public Comment Period

- Eliminate the framework and incorporate changes into the testing accommodation rules, incl. deference to applicant's qualified professional and limitation on documentation
- Broaden the scope of automatic approvals even if accommodations not requested/granted for MPRE, and by eliminating the five-year limitation for documentation for applicants with permanent physical or mental impairment
- Request for review/appeal back to the Committee of Bar Examiners; limit one appeal per exam cycle
- Considerable weight given to past testing accommodations approved by law school/college for timed exams
- Add definitions to rules; review timeline after new process has been implemented for two bar exam cycles



Recommendations

Should the Board of Trustees concur in the proposed action, passage of the following resolution is recommended:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves circulating for a 45-day public comment period, the revisions to the Chapter 7 Rules of the State Bar set forth in Attachment A.

