



The State Bar *of California*

# Cost Reduction Models

Committee of Bar Examiners, June 28, 2023



# Cost Reduction Models Considerations

- Bar Exam: single largest expenditure outside of personnel costs
- Ripe for examination of more efficient ways to deliver
- Consideration of impact on applicants with testing accommodations
- Results of surveys and data related to administration of remote exams



# Key Opportunities for Changes to Exam Administration



Consolidate  
administration into  
fewer sites



Essays and PT  
delivered remotely



Use of State Bar offices for  
testing accommodations  
applicants



# Cost Assumptions

| Facilities and Proctors                | Applicant Numbers                         | Included Direct Costs  | Indirect Costs Excluded                                    |
|--|---|--|--|
| Increases to Facility Costs & Proctors | Forecasted Applicant Pool Based on Trends | ExamSoft Licenses, Other Exam-Related Expenses (water, AV), Staff Travel | Staff Time, State Bar Office Use, Grading-Related Expenses |



# Reduction Models

## No Change "As Is"

All Components  
Administered In-  
person

Multiple Test Sites  
Across the State

\$5,618,700

## Six Sites

All Components  
Administered In-  
person

Six Test Sites: 3 TA & 3  
Standard Sites

No sites in  
Sacramento, Oakland,  
or San Diego

Est cost: \$4,763,200

Est annual savings:  
\$855,500

## Six Sites With One Remote Day

MBE Administered In-  
person / Essays & PT  
Administered Remotely

Six Test Sites: 3 TA &  
3 Standard Sites

No sites in Sacramento,  
Oakland, or San Diego

Est cost: \$3,787,000

Est annual savings:  
\$1,500,000

## Four Sites With 1 Remote Day

MBE Administered In-  
person & Essays &  
PT Administered Remotely

Four Test  
Sites: 3 Standard Sites & 1  
TA Site, **SB Offices Used  
for TA**

No sites in Sacramento,  
Oakland, or San Diego

Est cost: \$3,692,100

Est annual savings:  
\$1,800,000



# Rough Order of Magnitude Cost Estimates

|                     | As Is 2024   | 6 Sites<br>(no SB office) | 6 sites & 1 day remote<br>(no SB office) | 4 sites & 1 day remote<br>(w/SB office) |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--|---|
| Proctor Costs       | 2,271,550.00 | 2,271,550.00              | 1,222,000.00                             | 1,222,000.00                            |
| Staff Travel        | 135,00.00    | 135,000.00                | 135,000.00                               | 135,000.00                              |
| ExamSoft License    | 503,500.00   | 503,500.00                | 1,203,100.00                             | 1,203,100.00                            |
| Facilities          | 1,575,110.00 | 803,500.00                | 1,027,400.00                             | 812,000.00                              |
| Other Exam Expenses | 1,134,020.00 | 1,050,000.00              | 531,600.00                               | 446,100.00                              |
|                     | 5,619,180.00 | 4,763,550.00              | 4,119,100.00                             | 3,818,200.00                            |
| Difference          | NA           | (855,630.00)              | (1,500,080.00)                           | (1,800,980.00)                          |



# Three Supersites



Cow Palace

San Francisco



Ontario Convention  
Center

Ontario



Los Angeles  
Convention Center

Los Angeles





# Three Testing Accommodation Sites



Hilton Arden West

Sacramento



Hilton Culver City

Culver City



DoubleTree Orange

Orange





# Potential Exam Schedule for One-Day Remote

## Day 1 of Testing

- **Wednesday: MBE Day**
- **Last Week of Feb/July**
- **Standard Applicants**
- **TA Extended Time Wednesday Through Friday**

## Day 2 of Testing

- **Monday: Essays & PT**
- **First Week of Mar/Aug**
- **Standard Applicants**
- **TA Extended Time Monday Through Wednesday**

**\*evaluation of other schedule options still ongoing\***





## Motion

**MOVE** that the Committee of Bar Examiners recommends, based on the information available, that the Board of Trustees consider cost reduction model [INSERT].



# Questions?

