



# The State Bar of California

## Application for 2022 Appointments

Each year the State Bar of California offers opportunities to apply for appointment to serve on a number of committees that support the work of the State Bar. People from all backgrounds representing different legal specialties, professional experience, and California's multicultural population, are encouraged to apply for appointment. The State Bar complies with all applicable antidiscrimination laws in its appointment process.

The State Bar relies on volunteers to serve on the Board of Trustees, committees, and external entities. The Board of Trustees is the policymaking and oversight body for the State Bar. Committees provide support and advise the Board in several areas to ensure that the State Bar effectively fulfills its [public protection mission](#). The Board also makes appointments to external entities that work in furtherance of the State Bar's mission.

Advancing diversity and inclusion in the legal profession is part of the State Bar's mission. To that end, the Board of Trustees seek diverse representation on all of its committees and external entities. The Board works to make appointments that reflect California's multicultural population as well as a deep and broad range of perspectives, legal specialties, and professional experience.

In 2022, the following vacancies will be filled:

- California Board of Legal Specialization (1 vacancy)
- Client Security Fund Commission (1 vacancy for public member)
- Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct (4 vacancies)
- Committee of State Bar Accredited and Registered Schools (3 vacancies)
- 2023 Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation (13 vacancies)
- Law School Council (3 vacancies)
- Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (6 vacancies)
- Review Committee for Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation (2 vacancies)

---

### [Board of Trustees](#)

The Supreme Court of California appoints five lawyer members to the Board of Trustees of the State Bar of California. The Trustee Nominating Committee, created by the Supreme Court pursuant to Rule 9.90 of the California Rules of Court, is responsible for soliciting, receiving, screening and evaluating all applications for appointment or reappointment to the Board of Trustees of the State Bar of California and for making recommendations to the Supreme Court.

The role of a Trustee includes: (1) establishing and monitoring policies implementing the State Bar's public protection mission and strategic plan; (2) establishing policies, programs and services that advance the State Bar's public protection mission and strategic plan; and (3) adopting, evaluating

and modifying the State Bar's long-range plan to address both present and future challenges and opportunities for the State Bar.

To be eligible to serve on the Board of Trustees, the applicant must be an active licensee, in good standing, of the State Bar of California. In making appointments to the Board of Trustees, the Supreme Court is required by Business and Professions Code section 6013.1(d) to consider appointing lawyers who represent the following categories: legal services; small firm or solo practitioners; historically underrepresented groups; and legal academics. The Supreme Court must also consider geographic distribution, years of practice, and participation in voluntary local or State Bar activities. The terms are four years. For more information, please visit the Supreme Court Appointment [webpage](#).

**Expected 2022–2023 Vacancies: 0**

## STATE BAR ADVISORY COMMITTEES

---

### [California Board of Legal Specialization](#)

The California Board of Legal Specialization (CBLIS) administers the State Bar of California Program for Certifying Legal Specialists. The CBLIS recommends program rules and provides policies and guidelines for certification of specialists; develops testing and legal education criteria for specialists; and advises the Board of Trustees on establishment of specialty fields and drafting and grading of the legal specialist examinations. For more information, please visit the California Board of Legal Specialization [webpage](#).

**Expected 2022–2023 vacancies: 1 | Time Commitment: Six meetings per year**

### [Client Security Fund Commission](#)

The Client Security Fund Commission (CSF) reimburses clients who have lost money or property due to theft or an equivalent dishonest act committed by a California lawyer acting in a professional capacity. The commission determines whether applications filed with CSF qualify for reimbursement under the Fund's rules and makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees on revisions to the Fund's rules. For more information, please visit the CSF Commission [webpage](#).

**Expected 2022–2023 vacancies: 1 | Time Commitment: Six meetings per year**

### [Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct](#)

The committee addresses matters involving professional ethics and fee arbitration and helps educate and provide guidance to attorneys, judges, and the public about the ethical duties of an attorney. The committee's work consists of drafting advisory opinions on issues of professional ethics, and studying and recommending changes to the Rules of Professional Conduct. For more information, please visit the Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct [webpage](#).

**Expected 2022–2023 vacancies: 2 | Time Commitment: Eight meetings per year**

### [Committee of State Bar Accredited and Registered Schools](#)

The Committee of State Bar Accredited and Registered Schools (CSBARS) advises the State Bar of California's Committee of Bar Examiners on matters relating to the promulgation of new rules, guidelines, and amendments to the rules and guidelines for California-accredited Law Schools, and for Unaccredited Law Schools, as well as other issues related to legal education. For more information, please visit the CSBARS [webpage](#).

**Expected 2022–2023 Vacancies: 3 | Time Commitment:** The State Bar sets the meeting schedule as needed in consultation with the members.

### [Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation](#)

The Judicial Nominees Evaluation (JNE) Commission, established pursuant to Government Code section 12011.5, evaluates all candidates who are under consideration for a judicial appointment by the governor. The 38-member commission is composed of lawyers in active practice, one or more retired judges, and non-lawyer public members. Commissioners serve a single three year term. The State Bar seeks applications from California lawyers, former judges and members of the public whose background, skills and experience would enable them to assess

candidates for judicial appointment in a thorough, objective and professional manner and to provide timely and well-written reports, while maintaining a code of strict confidentiality. For more information, please visit the JNE Commission [webpage](#).

**Expected 2022–2023 vacancies: 13 | Time Commitment: Six meetings (two days long) per year alternating between San Francisco and Los Angeles State Bar offices, plus a mandatory two-day orientation meeting to be held January 27–28, 2023, and 40 hours of investigation/evaluation work per month.**

#### **Law School Council**

The Law School Council (LSC) meets several times per year to advise the State Bar on issues of interest and consequences to ABA-approved law schools in California. The LSC is comprised of seven deans or their representatives (staff or faculty) from ABA-approved schools in California. For more information, please visit the LSC [webpage](#).

**Expected 2022–2023 Vacancies: 3 | Time Commitment:** The State Bar sets the meeting schedule as needed in consultation with the members.

#### **Legal Services Trust Fund Commission**

The Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (LSTFC) is comprised of 21 voting members (15 lawyer members and six nonlawyer, public members) and three nonvoting bench officers. At least two of the public members must be eligible for legal services as “indigent persons” as defined by Business and Professions Code section 6213(d). The LSTFC administers grant programs that fund nonprofit civil legal aid organizations, including Interest on Lawyers’ Trust Accounts (IOLTA) program and the Equal Access Fund program. For more information, please visit the LSTFC [webpage](#).

**Expected 2022–2023 Vacancies: 6 | Time Commitment:** Four to six meetings per year plus additional standing committee meetings.

#### **Review Committee of the Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation**

The Review Committee (RJNE), established pursuant to Article 6, Rule 7.66 of the Rules and Procedures of the Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation (JNE Commission), is a five-member committee that is charged with reviewing requests from those candidates that are seeking reconsideration of a "not qualified" rating by the JNE Commission. RJNE evaluates information pertaining to the investigation of the candidate and focuses on possible violations of rules or procedures. For more information, please visit the RJNE [webpage](#).

**Expected 2022–2023 Vacancies: 2 | Time Commitment:** Meetings are conducted by conference call and typically last between 30 and 60 minutes. They may be held as often as four or five times a year.

### **STATE BAR BOARD OF TRUSTEE APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE ENTITIES**

---

#### **ADVISORY COMMITTEES – APPOINTMENT INFORMATION**

**Application and Deadlines:** All applicants are to file the State Bar Application for 2022–2023 Appointments. [The application form and related information is available on the State Bar website.](#)

**Unless otherwise published at the State Bar website or noted on the filing instruction page, the application filing deadline is March 1, 2022.** Please note that the State Bar cannot guarantee the confidentiality of applications.

**Eligibility/Appointment Policies:** Applicants may apply to a maximum of two committees but can be appointed to only one. Committee members may not serve on more than one committee at any one time unless an exception is authorized by the Board. In no case will the Board appoint a person who is subject to disciplinary probation. Factors that are weighed in the appointments process include: (1) if a lawyer appointment, whether there is a record of public discipline; (2) whether any other member of applicant's firm is on the committee; and (3) whether the applicant previously served on the committee. Due consideration will be given in the appointment process to the budget impact of any additional costs that may be incurred by the State Bar due to the service of out-of-state members. Specific requirements for the individual committees are noted on the committee-specific pages of the State Bar website.

**Appointment Term:** Members generally serve three-year terms. Some appointments have two-year and four-year terms. On occasion, the Board may appoint a member to an unexpired vacancy (i.e., the appointee serves only the remaining portion of the term of the member who resigned). With few exceptions, the committee year runs from September to September.

**Time Commitment and Committee Service:** Committees differ in the number of meetings scheduled in a year, but a typical meeting requires two to four hours of preparation and at least four to six hours of attendance. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, committee meetings are held virtually by Zoom. If this changes, members appointed to a committee may be asked to travel for meetings. An additional time commitment may be required for special tasks and projects. Committee members take an oath of office and receive no compensation for services. Committee members may be reimbursed for approved travel expenses in accordance with the State Bar's policies.

**Application Review and Board Appointments:** The Board Executive Committee will consider the appointments and forward its recommendations to the Board of Trustees for consideration. The ultimate authority to make appointments rests with the Board of Trustees.

**Questions:** Please contact [appointments@calbar.ca.gov](mailto:appointments@calbar.ca.gov)