

**Committee of Bar Examiners  
of  
The State Bar of California**

**2013-2014 Subcommittee Goals**

**Educational Standards Subcommittee**

1. Consider a proposed extension of the deadline for the submission of the Annual Compliance Report by all California-Accredited Law Schools.

**October 2013**

2. Consider revising the guidelines for eligibility determinations related to determining the eligibility of foreign-educated applicants to take the California Bar Examination to include other credential services.

**October 2013**

3. Consider a revision to Rule 4.165(B) of the *Accredited Law School Rules* to provide a comprehensive and accurate definition of a “branch” campus for purposes of the Committee of Bar Examiners prior approval of a major change request from a California-Accredited law school to open a branch campus.

**October 2013/January 2014**

4. Consider a proposed interpretation of Guideline 12.1 to allow California-Accredited Law Schools to calculate and report accurately their respective cumulative bar examination pass rates (CBEPR) in their 2013 Annual Compliance Report.

**October 2013/January 2014**

5. Consider whether Certification/Graduation should be conditioned upon the completion of certain non-classroom related activities and the role of commercial bar review courses in awarding credit for bar review courses. .

**October 2013/January 2014**

6. Consider the Committee's continuing role, pursuant to Guideline 13.1 of the *Guidelines for Accredited Law School Rules* and Guideline 1.2 or the *Guidelines for Implementation of Chapter 2, Rule 4.30 of the Admission Rules*, of continuing to grant either its “acquiescence” to the issuance of a LL.M. degrees offered by ABA-approved and California Accredited Law Schools to Foreign Educated Applicants or its permission for such Applicants to complete twenty (20) semester

or equivalent units in specified legal education at an ABA-approved or California-accredited law school, to be qualified to take the California Bar Examination.

#### **March 2014**

7. Consider the recommendations of the Working Group in regard to necessary amendments to the statute, California Rules of Court, the *Unaccredited Law School Rules, Guidelines for Unaccredited Law Rules*, and the *Accredited Law School Rules and Guidelines for Accredited Law School Rules* to carry out the Committee's concepts that have been approved in principle with regard to clarifying that the Committee has no role in the oversight of non-law school programs, requiring that unaccredited law schools eventually become accredited and permitting distance-learning law schools to become accredited.

#### **June 2014**

8. Consider recommendations from the Committee's Advisory Committee on California Accredited Law School Rules regarding proposed amendments to the *Accredited Law School Rules and Guidelines for Accredited Law School Rules*.

#### **Ongoing**

9. Consider petitions received from accredited and registered, unaccredited law schools seeking individual waivers of the Committee's policies, procedures, rules and guidelines.

#### **Monthly**

10. Consider reports on pending applications for provisional, accreditation and registration, other and new law degree programs and requests for prior approval of major changes. Participate in law school visitations as scheduled and needed. Consider reports of periodic inspections of accredited and registered unaccredited law schools and inspections performed in response to the issuance of Notices of Noncompliance; Generally monitor the law school accreditation and registration process and the educational requirements for applicants seeking to qualify to take and pass the California Bar Examination.

#### **Monthly**

### **Examinations Subcommittee**

1. Continue outreach and consider making final decision regarding format of the California Bar Examination, including whether it should be reduced from three days to two days.

#### **October 2013/Ongoing**

2. In conjunction with Subcommittee on Operations and Management, review reports on administration of the California First-Year Law Students' Examination.

**December 2013/June 2014**

3. Edit and approve final versions of the essay questions and select performance test questions for administration on California Bar Examinations.

**December 2013/April 2014**

4. Provide training regarding evaluation and processing of testing accommodations petitions.

**December 2013**

5. Consider making final decision regarding format of the California First-Year Law Students' Examination, including whether it should be all multiple-choice.

**January 2013**

6. Consider draft reports on February and July California Bar Examinations, which include analyses by GANSK.

**January 2014/ June 2014**

7. In conjunction with the Subcommittee on Operations and Management, review reports on administration of the California Bar Examination.

**March 2014/August 2014**

8. Consider Proposed Guidelines for Generation of Examination Statistics and Statistics Provided to Law Schools.

**April 2014**

9. Provide training on the Use of Laptop Computers to take examinations.

**April 2014**

10. Consider conducting future psychometric studies to ensure the reliability, validity and fairness of examinations administered by the Committee of Bar Examiners.

**Ongoing**

10. Receive reports on progress of Uniform Bar Examination.

**Ongoing**

11. Consider petitions seeking waivers of the Committee's examinations related policies, procedures and rules.

**Monthly**

12. Review appeals from applicants with disabilities who are appealing Senior Director, Admissions decisions relative to their requests for testing accommodations.

**Monthly**

### **Moral Character Subcommittee**

1. Provide training regarding conducting informal conferences and the decision making process.

**December 2013**

2. Provide training regarding assessing the candor of applicants for moral character determination.

**January 2014**

3. Provide training regarding the rehabilitation of applicants for moral character determination.

**March 2014**

4. Meet with representative(s) of the State Bar Court concerning appeals of applications reviewed by the Court.

**April 2014**

5. Meet with representatives of the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel concerning the appeals of moral character application denials.

**June 2014**

6. Increase communications with the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel regarding moral character cases that have been appealed to the State Bar Court.

**Ongoing**

7. Conduct informal conferences and make recommendations with respect to Applications for Determination of Moral Character.

**Monthly**

## **Operations and Management Subcommittee**

1. Consider proposed adjustments to Administrative Fee Schedule, which must be approved by the Board of Trustees before implementation.

**October 2013**

2. Review Proposed 2014 Budget.

**December 2013**

3. Review report on administration of the First-Year Law Students' Examination.

**December 2013/June 2014**

4. In conjunction with the Subcommittee on Examinations, review reports on administration of the California Bar Examination.

**March 2014/August 2014**

5. Review and approve guidelines for *Admissions Rules* and Committee policies.

**June 2014/August 2014**

6. Consider establishment of formal acknowledgement/recognition program for long-term staff, Graders, proctors and other consultants.

**January 2014**

7. Review and change, if necessary, the policy relating to the retention of electronic records data in-house and by consultants.

**August 2014**