



# The State Bar of California

Dear State Bar,

## **Update on Scoring Adjustments**

### *Calculation After Second Read*

As we shared on May 30, the Committee of Bar Examiners (CBE) adopted a change to how scores are calculated for those applicants who went through “second read.” Specifically, instead of averaging the scores received on first and second read, we will instead apply the higher score received on each essay and the performance test.

As a result of this change, we are also re-running the score imputation approved by the Supreme Court on May 2 (imputing scores for all those with no content or, for the PT, for those who did not have access to file and/or library). Because scores will now be higher for those who went through second read, imputed scores will also be higher. That is because an imputed score is based on the difficulty of the question—derived by looking at how others scored on the question being imputed—and the applicant’s performance on the questions they answered.

Those who now pass the exam after these two adjustments will be notified Friday and will receive an updated results letter; updated scores for everyone else who still did not meet the passing score will be updated in the [Applicant Portal](#) by next week.

*Imputation of Performance Test Scores for All Who Did Not Pass - Petition to the Supreme Court*

We anticipate submitting a petition to the Supreme Court this week seeking approval of the CBE's recommendation to impute a score for the performance test and award the higher of the earned score or the imputed score.

As a reminder, the [petition](#) recommending non-scoring adjustments is still pending with the Supreme Court.

### **Update on Independent Consultant Review of the Grading Process**

On Thursday, June 5, the Board of Trustees will be asked to approve contracting with the Human Resources Research Organization to conduct a privileged review of the grading process and applicant concerns to determine if there are any additional issues that may impact applicant outcomes. The review of scoring issues will be completed in advance of the July Bar Exam. The privileged review to assess whether all approved testing accommodations were delivered during the exam will follow. The testing accommodation review will occur in phases. We anticipate the first phase to be complete in July, and the entire review is expected to be completed by September 30, 2025. Tomorrow's Board of Trustees [meeting](#) will begin at 2:30 p.m. However, since the meeting will be short, public comment will be limited.

We appreciate your patience as we work to ensure a fair and transparent process.

Office of Admissions

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The email address [noreply@calbar.ca.gov](mailto:noreply@calbar.ca.gov) is used solely for sending communications and is not monitored. If you need assistance or wish to get in touch, please contact us using the [Applicant Portal](#).

