



National Association of Social Workers ~ California Chapter

LCSW Candidates Who Fail the California Law and Ethics Exam

Based on legislation, candidates who fail the California Law and Ethics Exam must complete 12 hours of law and ethics coursework *before* they can re-apply to take the exam. However, the regulations do not mandate a specific set of topics to be covered or a specific 12-hour course. This is because each applicant has different needs based on experience, education, and training and their prior performance on the exam. **In other words, each applicant is responsible for performing an assessment of his or her knowledge base in relation to the exam content and developing a plan that addresses their personal needs.**

Candidates should carefully evaluate the all exam related information on the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) website.

BBS Exam News (the most current information)
http://www.bbs.ca.gov/exams/exam_news.shtml

BBS Law and Ethics Exam Plan
http://www.bbs.ca.gov/pdf/publications/lcsw_2016-law-ethics_exam_plan.pdf

BBS Law and Ethics Exam Handbook
http://www.bbs.ca.gov/pdf/publications/lcle_handbook_01042016.pdf

BBS Request for Re-Examination
http://www.bbs.ca.gov/pdf/forms/re-exam_app_37a-298.pdf

Exam Questions
BBS.Exams@dca.ca.gov

Based on their specific needs, candidates should carefully select courses that are most appropriate to their needs. These courses can be live or online courses, or a combination. However, all courses must be offered through a California approved provider. For information regarding California approved providers, visit http://www.bbs.ca.gov/licensees/ce_licensees.shtml.

NASW-California Chapter Options

- Live Law and Ethics Courses

The chapter offers live law and ethics 6-hour courses five times a year through CE Fairs (Jan, Feb, May and June) and the Annual Conference (Oct). For information about live courses, visit <http://www.naswca.org/?page=163>.

- Online Law and Ethics Courses

Candidates can choose from two online options based on which option best suits their needs.
https://www.socialworkweb.com/#/s/caprelawandethics#prelicense_12_hour_law_ethics

Law and Ethics Exam Content vs. Exam Prep Courses

The chapter's online and law and ethics coursework highlights and explores topics that can be incorporated in the California Law and Ethics Exam, while "exam prep courses" generally include "test taking strategies and sample exam questions." Exam prep courses can be found by doing an Internet search for "CA Law and Ethics LCSW Exam Prep Courses."