



Law & Ethics Examination FAQs

IMPORTANT

- **REGISTRANTS MUST TAKE A CALIFORNIA LAW AND ETHICS EXAMINATION:**

Those who hold an ASW, AMFT or APCC registration will be required to take a California Law and Ethics examination a minimum of one time per renewal cycle until the examination has been passed.

- **PASSING SCORE REQUIRED FOR SUBSEQUENT REGISTRATIONS:**

Applicants will NOT be able to obtain a subsequent (2nd or 3rd) ASW, AMFT or APCC registration without first passing the California Law and Ethics examination.

Are all registrants required to take the California Law and Ethics examination?

Yes, all registrants are required to take the California Law and Ethics examination a minimum of one time per renewal cycle until the examination has been passed.

What is a renewal cycle?

A renewal cycle is for a period of one year.

Example: Registration expires 09/30/20 - renewal cycle is from 10/01/19 to 09/30/20.

What happens if I don't take the California Law and Ethics examination before my registration's expiration date?

Your registration will NOT be permitted to renew until you have taken the California Law and Ethics examination.

What if I don't pass the California Law and Ethics examination before my registration expires?

If you take the California Law and Ethics examination a minimum of one time during the renewal cycle and the renewal fee has been paid the registration will update.

What happens if I submit my renewal early and haven't yet taken the California Law and Ethics examination?

Your registration will not update until you have taken the California Law and Ethics examination.

Once I take the California Law and Ethics examination how long will it take for the registration to update?

The Board receives examination results within 24-48 hours of the examination date. So long as the registrant has paid the renewal fee the renewal will update as soon as the examination results are received.

What happens if I don't pass the California Law and Ethics examination?

You may apply for re-examination immediately however, you may not retake the examination until a minimum of 90 days have passed from the date you last took the examination.

When is the 12-hour course in California Law and Ethics examination required?

If a registrant fails to obtain a passing score on the California Law and Ethics examination prior to the registration's expiration date, you must attach proof of completing a 12-hour course in California Law and Ethics to regain eligibility to take the California Law and Ethics examination during your next renewal cycle. The course is required once per renewal cycle until a passing score is obtained.

Where can I take the 12-hour California Law and Ethics course from?

The 12-hour California Law and Ethics course shall be taken through an acceptable continuing education provider, a county, state or other governmental entity, or a college or university.

What happens if I'm required to take the 12-hour course but am unable to complete it before my registration expires?

You will not be permitted to retake the California Law and Ethics examination until the Board receives proof of course completion. Your registration will NOT be permitted to renew until you have completed the required course and taken the California Law and Ethics examination. Remember, if you do not take the examination at least once during any one-year renewal cycle, you will not be permitted to renew your registration until the examination has been taken.

What is the waiting period between examination attempts? How many attempts will I have to pass the California Law and Ethics examination during a renewal cycle?

The examination may be retaken after a 90-day waiting period, provided that an application for re-examination and fee has been submitted to the Board. It is possible that registrants to have three (3) attempts to pass the examination during each renewal cycle, so long as a re-examination application and fee are received timely for each attempt. We also recommend mailing the application and fee using a method that provides for tracking.

What happens if I haven't passed the California Law and Ethics examination by my registration's 6-year time limit?

California law permits a registration to be renewed a maximum of five (5) times before being cancelled. An individual cannot be granted a subsequent registration number unless he or she has passed the Law and Ethics examination. There are no exceptions.

What happens once I pass the California Law and Ethics examination?

If you are still earning your hours of supervised experience, you will continue as a registrant until you have completed your hours. Once you have met all education and experience requirements, you will receive an approval letter from the Board. Upon receipt of the approval letter you will then apply for the *Clinical Examination* to the appropriate entity for your license type. It is important to remember you must take the examination within one year of the approval.

What if I am an ASW or MFT Associate and have previously passed the Standard Written examination?

You will have fulfilled the Law and Ethics examination requirement unless your Standard Written examination score is more than seven (7) years old.