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FAQ's for Examination

To assist California Acupuncture Licensing Exam (CALE) candidates and school representatives in understanding the examination processes, California Acupuncture Board (CAB) staff has created this explanation of our examination administration policies and procedures. The CAB has a high level of commitment to upholding the integrity, validity, and fairness of the CALE as a meaningful measure of entry level competency to meet CAB's mandate of public protection.

Question #1: There is not a listing of a schedule of exams on CAB's website. When can I take the next examination?

CAB provides year-round, computer-based testing for the CALE. This means that candidates who have received approval from CAB, and have submitted the \$550 exam fee to CAB, can schedule their examinations on any available day, pending availability at their desired PSI Test Center location. CAB is contracted with 17 sites in California as well as 22 additional sites across the country. Sites are open six days a week.

Candidates who are approved and had their exam fee processed, will be sent an e-mail and handbook from PSI with details on scheduling the CALE. Applicants can register for the CALE by calling PSI directly or registering online (the handbook provides detailed registration information and instructions). Candidates can register for their exam according to their own schedules, provided it is still within their eligibility period. The eligibility expiration will be listed on the handbook provided by PSI. Candidates must take the exam before that date or their exam fee will be forfeited.

The eligibility period is established based on California Code of Regulations (CCR) 1399.417 (a) *An application for examination shall be deemed to have been abandoned and the applicant's fee forfeited in any of the following circumstances:*

- 2. The applicant fails to take the licensing examination within two years after the date that he or she is notified by the board of his/her eligibility to take the examination....*
- 3. The applicant, after failing the examination, fails to take a re-examination within two years after the date the applicant was notified of such failure...*

Question #2: What is the registration deadline and application process?

There is no longer an application deadline as the CALE is now offered continuously. Applications are now accepted on a continuous basis and evaluated in the order received. Although an applicant can apply at any time, it is best to wait until a month before completion of the TCM program. The reason for this is that an application cannot be approved without the final transcript. CALE applications that are not completed within 180 days will be considered abandoned and the applicant will have to re-apply and pay the \$75 application fee again.

CCR 1399.417 (a) *An application for examination shall be deemed to have been abandoned and the applicant's fee forfeited in any of the following circumstances:*

- 1. The applicant fails to complete his or her application within 180 calendar days after it has been filed. An application shall be deemed complete when all documents and information required to determine eligibility for examination have been submitted to the board.*

Please allow 45 days for application processing. Applicants will receive an e-mail from CAB indicating full approval or a list of deficiencies within that time.

Question #3: When will I get my test results?

Results will be given to the candidate on site upon completion of the examination.

Question #4: If I fail the exam, can I immediately sign up for the exam again?

No. Candidates who need to retake an examination must wait **180 calendar days** from the last recorded test. No exceptions.

For additional exam related questions, please e-mail the California Acupuncture Board at AcuExamUnit@DCA.CA.Gov.