



PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

Date:	April 26, 2017	Number:	17-04
Subject:	Board of Institutional Review (BIR) Training		

Summary

This Program Sponsor Alert provides an update on the Commission's plan for Board of Institutional Review (BIR) training as it relates to effective implementation of the revised accreditation system.

Background

The Commission relies on the participation of a large number of practitioners and educator preparation professionals from across the variety of credential areas to serve as BIR reviewers and make the accreditation process work. It is critical to the effectiveness and credibility of the accreditation system that reviewers are trained and calibrated to ensure consistent, fair, and unbiased reviews. In response to recent changes made to the accreditation system, this training and calibration is in need of significant realignment with the current accreditation system.

Significant changes to the accreditation system include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Elimination of lengthy narratives to focus on an outcomes and evidence based system.
- Significantly revised standards that align with Commission identified competencies such as the Teaching Performance Expectations (TPEs) and the California Administrator Performance Expectations (CAPEs).
- Revised performance assessment for teachers and a new performance assessment for administrative candidates.
- Inclusion of survey results and other outcomes data.
- Annual data submission and the development and implementation of data warehouse and data dashboards.
- Greater specificity on fieldwork and clinical practice requirements for teaching credentials.

As a result, Commission staff is in the process of revising every aspect of the BIR training to ensure appropriate implementation of the revised accreditation system.

Training for Existing BIR members

Because the accreditation reviews for institutions undergoing visits in fall of 2017 and spring of 2018 include aspects of both the previous system and the new system, existing BIR members will be contacted to participate as team members on these site visits.

This refresher training will take place beginning late summer and early fall of 2017. This training will include those aspects of the new accreditation system that are applicable for the upcoming site visits for 2017-18.

Training for New BIR members

Starting with the 2018-2019 site visits, Commission staff will seek out reviewers from across the credential and experience spectrum to become trained and part of the BIR for all future accreditation reviews under the new system.

The new BIR training will require trainees to complete the following over time:

- 1) Participation in either Common Standards Review or Program Review
- 2) Completion of On-line training modules followed by an approximately 2 day face-to-face training

The first face-to-face BIR training for the new accreditation system will be held in January 2018. Commission staff anticipates holding three face-to-face trainings in 2018-19. Preference will be given to individuals who have participated in either Common Standards or Program Review when individuals are selected to attend the first face-to-face training.

While the online training modules and face-to-face training will commence in January 2018, opportunities for Program Review training will be offered in the fall of 2017. Review dates for Common Standards and Program Review will be announced through [PSD e-news](#).

Stay in Contact with PSD

[Sign up for PSD e-news](#), a weekly email with the most up to date information on what is happening in the Professional Services Division including dates for upcoming Program Review and Common Standards Review sessions and applications for the face to face BIR training. Receive a first look at new Program Sponsor Alerts (PSAs), get information about panels and reading sessions, accreditation news, and many other informative updates to keep you connected.