

Center for Judicial Education and Resources Advisory Committee
Developing Curriculum-Based Education With Curriculum Committees

The responsibility for planning, conducting, and overseeing judicial branch education is directed by the Judicial Council of California with input from the Center for Judicial Education and Resources (CJER) Advisory Committee, which in turn receives recommendations from curriculum committees. This work is supported by the Judicial Council's CJER staff.

Curricula and Audiences

To be effective, the structure for developing a judicial branch education plan must be curriculum-based and meet the needs of all the branch's many audiences who desire continuing education. California judicial branch education consists of the following broad content areas:

- Appellate Practice;
- Civil Law;
- Criminal Law;
- Family Law;
- Judicial Branch Access, Ethics & Fairness;
- Judicial Branch Leadership Development;
- Juvenile Law;
- Probate Law; and
- Trial Court Operations.

Curriculum Committees

To meet the needs of these varied audiences, the CJER Advisory Committee created a curriculum committee for each broad subject. Curriculum committees are comprised of audience members of each subject's education. The CJER Advisory Committee recommends potential curriculum committee members to the Chief Justice, who makes the appointments. This approach brings multiple perspectives to each subject, which enriches the curriculum.

The primary duty of each curriculum committee is to partner with CJER staff to develop a recommendation for a two-year education plan for its subject. The CJER Advisory Committee considers the recommendations of each curriculum committee and creates a final comprehensive education plan for the judicial branch that is approved by the Judicial Council.