



Judicial Council of California

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M E M O R A N D U M

Date

January 24, 2025

Action Requested

Submit Nomination Information

To

Justices of the Supreme Court
Justices of the Courts of Appeal
Judges, Commissioners, and Referees of the
Superior Courts
Clerk/Executive Officer of the Supreme Court
Clerk/Executive Officers of the
Courts of Appeal
Court Executive Officers of the
Superior Courts
Judicial Council Members
Judicial Council Advisory Committee and
Task Force Members
Bar Associations
Law-Related Community Organizations
Interested Others

Deadline

March 17, 2025

Contact

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From

Brad R. Hill, Chair
Executive and Planning Committee

Subject

2025 Judicial Council Education Committee
Nominations

The Executive and Planning Committee of the Judicial Council of California is soliciting nominations to fill vacancies on the Judicial Council's education curriculum committees and the B. E. Witkin Judicial College Steering Committee.

The Judicial Council is the policymaking body of the California courts. Under the leadership of the Chief Justice and in accordance with the California Constitution, the council establishes policies and sets priorities for the judicial branch of government. It is responsible for ensuring the consistent, independent, impartial, and accessible administration of justice on behalf of the public and the court system as a whole.

Education Curriculum Committees

The education curriculum committees support the work of the Judicial Council's Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER) Advisory Committee.

California judicial branch education consists of broad content areas that reflect the needs of the branch's many audiences. These needs are addressed by nine curriculum committees:

1. Appellate Practice;
2. Civil Law;
3. Criminal Law;
4. Family Law;
5. Judicial Branch Access, Ethics & Fairness;
6. Judicial Branch Leadership Development;
7. Juvenile Law;
8. Probate Law; and
9. Trial Court Operations.

Each curriculum committee is comprised of experienced members from the key audiences who require education in that area. (Please see the nomination form for specific membership categories.) This approach is intended to bring multiple perspectives to each substantive area, which will in turn enrich the curriculum for that area.

Curriculum committees draft and submit to the CJER Advisory Committee a proposed two-year education plan within their respective content area for the CJER Advisory Committee's review and approval, and subsequently for the Judicial Council's review and approval. The curriculum committees are responsible for developing specific content to be covered in the two-year plan and determining the method of delivery of that content. In addition, the curriculum committees are directly involved in developing the institutes that fall within their responsibility. For more information on the curriculum committees, see [Developing Curriculum-Based Education With Curriculum Committees](#). Terms begin on September 15, 2025.

Desirable Qualifications

Desirable qualifications for membership include at least three years of recent experience in the subject area of the curriculum committee (e.g., dependency, civil procedure, judicial ethics, court leadership), and experience in and/or commitment to education, including service to the CJER Advisory Committee (or to another judicial education provider) as faculty or a planning committee member. Leadership skills are also highly desired, especially for the position of committee chair, including (1) a demonstrated ability to motivate others, (2) problem-solving skills, (3) the ability to build consensus, and (4) demonstrated organizational skills, accessibility, and responsiveness to deadlines.

B. E. Witkin Steering Committee

For over 50 years, the B. E. Witkin Judicial College has provided educational experiences for all recently appointed or elected California trial court judges, commissioners, and referees; this two-week program is traditionally held annually in late July and early August.

The Steering Committee is comprised of the dean of the Judicial College, the associate dean, and four to six additional members all serving a concurrent two-year term.

The Steering Committee, under the leadership of the dean and associate dean, will develop the educational content of the Judicial College, including:

- Designing the college program and class schedule;
- Providing guidance in the development of courses;
- Identifying and recruiting college faculty;
- Identifying and recruiting college seminar leaders;
- Selecting the Traynor Forum speaker;
- Identifying and recruiting other keynote speakers as appropriate; and
- Determining all extracurricular activities during the college.

Desirable Qualifications

Each Steering Committee member should have recent and significant experience with the Judicial College.

Additionally, the following are extremely desirable qualifications:

- A demonstrated ability to motivate others;
- Problem-solving skills;
- Interpersonal skills;
- Ability to build consensus; and
- Experience in and commitment to education.

Demonstrated organizational skills, accessibility, and responsiveness to deadlines are also highly desired.

Selected nominees should represent diverse backgrounds, experiences, and geographic locations. In addition, the Steering Committee should have members who have subject matter expertise in key substantive areas, such as criminal and civil law, and experience with CJER's New Judge Orientation Program.

How to Apply

If you decide to apply for more than one committee, we ask that you indicate your preference for appointment and if you are willing to serve on multiple committees.

Please complete the nominations form [online](#), or on the [California Courts website](#). Alternatively, you may also complete the attached fillable PDF form and submit it along with the nominee's biography or curriculum vitae by **Monday, March 17, 2025**.

Before nominating someone, please ascertain that the nominee is interested and available to serve if selected. Self-nominations are highly encouraged.

If you have any questions, please contact Judicial Council Support at JCCNominations@jud.ca.gov.

BRH/JYF/KJ

Attachments