

**RULES AND GUIDELINES  
BOARD OF EXAMINERS  
(under Article 7.12b, section 3 of  
the Higher Education Act (WHW))**

**2017-2018**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
APPLIED EARTH SCIENCES**

**DELFT UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY**

# **Rules and Guidelines of the Board of Examiners**

## **General**

### **Article 1      Scope of applicability**

These Rules and Guidelines govern the Civil Engineering Bachelor's degree programme and the Applied Earth Sciences Bachelor's degree programme of Delft University of Technology, referred to below as the Programme or Programmes'.

### **Article 2      Definition of terms**

The definitions of terms contained in Article 1.1 of the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (*Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek*) and Article 2 of the Civil Engineering Bachelor's Programme Teaching and Examination Regulations and the Applied Earth Sciences Bachelor's Programme Teaching and Examination Regulations, referred to below as the Bachelor's Programme Regulations, apply.

### **Article 3      The Board of Examiners' working method**

1. In principle the Board of Examiners meets once a month.
2. The Board of Examiners can delegate certain clearly defined duties.
3. The Board of Examiners' Secretary is charged with looking after the day-to-day affairs of the Board of Examiners.
4. The meetings are not public.
5. In the event that a student submits an application or complaint to the Board of Examiners that involves an examiner who is a member of the Board of Examiners, the examiner concerned will have no involvement in the handling of the application or complaint and will temporarily absent him or herself from the meeting.
6. A report will be drawn up regarding the matters discussed at meetings.
7. Every year, the Board of Examiners compiles a report on its activities in the previous academic year and sends this report to the Dean.

### **Article 4      Decisions taken by the Board of Examiners**

1. The Board of Examiners' rulings are based on a simple majority vote.
2. If the votes are equally divided the Chairperson of the Board of Examiners will have a casting vote unless the votes were cast by ballot.
3. If votes cast by ballot are equally divided, then a second vote by ballot will be held; if the votes are once again equally divided, the proposal being voted upon will be rejected.
4. The results of the Bachelor's degree audit are determined by a member of the Board of Examiners and the Secretary. In the case of doubt about a result, the Board of Examiners will decide.
5. A member of the Board of Examiners is mandated to make decisions on free minor requests.
6. The secretary is mandated to make standard decisions on the basis of the R&R, the TER, the IR and previously formulated policy.

### **Article 5      Appointment of examiners, external examiners and ad hoc committees**

1. The Board of Examiners appoints as examiners the members of staff responsible for conducting examinations and determining the results.
2. The Board of Examiners is entitled to appoint experts from outside the institution as examiners. This kind of appointment will be for a maximum period of two years, with the option to extend this period each time by a maximum of a further two years.
3. The Board of Examiners can appoint ad hoc committees, including an assessment committee for Bachelor's Final Project as referred to in Article 27.

### **Article 6      Standards**

The Board of Examiners or the examiner will use the following standards as a guideline when making decisions and will weigh the various standards against each other in the event of any inconsistency:

- a. maintaining the quality and selection requirements with respect to the examination or part of the examination in question;
- b. expediency, with the goal of:
  - limiting study delays of students who are making good progress in their studies;
  - and persuade a student to drop out of the programme with as little loss of time as possible if it has become unlikely that the programme will be completed within a reasonable period of enrolment;
- c. warning students and taking appropriate action if they are in danger of taking on too great a study load;
- d. leniency with respect to a student who is experiencing or has experienced a study delay due to circumstances that are beyond his/her control.

#### **Article 7 Language**

1. A student who submits a request to the Board of Examiners to take one or more parts of an examination in another language as referred to in Article 9 of the Bachelor's Programme Regulations must substantiate that request.
2. Before making a decision, the Board of Examiners is to obtain advice from the examiner(s) in question with regard to the request.

#### **Article 8 Fraud**

1. Fraud is taken to mean any act or omission by a student that makes it fully or partially impossible to properly assess the knowledge, insight and skill of that student or another student. Fraud includes committing any form of plagiarism, including any and all cases in which a student suggests that a piece of work is his/her own when that is not the case.
2. Whenever a student is suspected of having committed fraud, the matter will be dealt with by the Board of Examiners of the study programme on which the student is enrolled. If a Board of Examiners receives a complaint relating to fraud about a student who is enrolled on a different study programme, it will immediately pass on the complaint to the Board of Examiners of the relevant study programme. In the case of fraude committed in group work involving students from different study programmes, the Boards of Examiners concerned will together agree which Board of Examiners will handle the complaint. The Board of Examiners dealing with the complaint will keep the other Board or Boards informed of the outcome.
3. If fraud is discovered or suspected while an examination is being taken, the examiner or invigilator will immediately inform the student in question and record the incident in a written report as quickly as possible. The written report will be added to the student's completed examination. The examiner or invigilator can request the student to make available any evidence. If the student refuses to do so, this will be noted in the report. The report and any evidence will be submitted to the Board of Examiners immediately.
4. If fraud is discovered or suspected other than while an examination is being taken, the examiner will record the incident in writing as quickly as possible. The report and any evidence will be submitted to the Board of Examiners immediately.
5. The Board of Examiners will give the student an opportunity to add written comments to the report that was prepared by the examiner or invigilator.
6. The Board of Examiners will, in case of fraud, make the decision that a mark will not be issued for the examination or practical in question, barring exceptional cases.
7. The Board of Examiners will make a decision whether a sanction will be imposed and can impose the following sanctions on the student depending on the gravity of the case, including repeated incidents of fraud:
  - a. a reprimand;
  - b. exclusion from the examination or practical in question for a maximum period of one year;
  - c. exclusion from one or more examination periods for a maximum period of one year; or
  - d. a combination of the measures listed above.

In the event of serious fraud, the Board of Examiners is entitled to decide to propose to the Executive Board that the student's enrolment on the degree programme be permanently terminated.
8. When, within the context of group work, the Board of Examiners determines that group fraud has been committed, the Board of Examiners can impose one of the sanctions referred to in subsection 7a to d upon every member of the group.
9. The Board of Examiners will not make a decision as referred to in subsection 6 until after the student has been given an opportunity to be heard. A hearing will not be necessary if the Board of Examiners determines that no fraud has been committed.

## **Article 9      Time limits**

1. A request to the Board of Examiners must be submitted eight working days before the meeting.
2. The Board of Examiners will render a decision with respect to a student's application within 40 working days after the application is received or, if the application is submitted during an academic holiday or within a period of three weeks prior to an academic holiday, within 40 working days after the end of that holiday. The Board of Examiners can postpone making a decision for a maximum period of 10 working days. The student will be informed in writing of any postponement before the end of the period referred to in the first sentence.

## **Registering and withdrawing**

### **Article 10**

*Expired*

### **Article 11**

*Expired*

### **Article 12      Registering for degree audit and applying for degree certificate**

1. Registration for the degree audit and the application for the degree certificate must be submitted to the Student Administration no later than 20 working days before the degree audit in question is to be held.
2. The student must submit the final study programme to the Student Administration no later than the day on which the period referred to in subsection 1 commences.
3. All requirements must be met and all results must have been submitted to the Student Administration no later than five working days before the meeting for the degree audit in question.
4. The Student Administration has the possibility of putting a student forward for the degree audit if it has established that the student has met all the obligations for the degree audit. The Student Administration will inform the student of its intention to put the student forward for the degree audit. The Student Administration will drop its intention when the student indicates within the specified period that he/she wishes to improve a result or wishes to supplement his/her examination programme. In that case, the student will have the opportunity to do so the rest of the current academic year.

### **Article 13      Withdrawal from the degree audit**

1. Withdrawal from the degree audit is possible up to three working days before the meeting for the audit in question is due to be held; this is arranged with the Student Administration.
2. Any student who has withdrawn from the degree audit should re-register on a subsequent occasion, in accordance with the provisions of Article 12.

## **Examinations and practicals**

### **Article 14      Taking written and oral examinations**

1. When the same examination is administered by more than one examiner, simultaneously or otherwise, and the results of the examination in question are also assessed by more than one examiner, the final assessment will be made on the basis of the relevant (and identical) predetermined standards in accordance with the provisions of Article 17 subsection 2. If necessary the Board of Examiners will designate an examiner who will have primary responsibility for administering the examination.
2. In special cases the Board of Examiners can allow a student to take an examination in a form other than a written examination. The request for this must be substantiated.
3. At request of the student, an oral examination will be conducted by two examiners.

4. A student's registration will be confirmed by or on behalf of the Board of Examiners during written or oral examinations.

#### **Article 15 Questions and assignments**

1. The questions and assignments covered by an examination will not include material that is not part of the sources that are to be made known in advance and from which the questions and assignments are derived. These sources will be generally made known before commencement of the coursework that prepares students for the examination. The exact scope of the material will be finalised no later than one month before the examination is taken.
2. The questions and assignments contained in an examination are to be a well-balanced representation of the materials studied.
3. The examination will reflect the content and form of the subjects objectives.
4. The questions and assignments will be clear and unambiguous. The method of assessment is to be made clear and unambiguous so that the student is fully aware of how extensive and detailed the answers must be.
5. Well before a written examination, the examiner will give the students the opportunity to familiarise themselves with examples of representative examination questions and answers and the examination assessment standards.
6. The time limit for examinations will be such that the student will have sufficient time to answer the questions, based on reasonable standards.

#### **Article 15a Participation in Online Proctored examinations**

1. Students who are enrolled in an online programme automatically have approval of the Board of Examiners for taking written examinations via online proctoring.
2. A student who wishes to take a written exam via online proctoring on an occasional basis, has to send a motivated request to the Board of Examiners.
  - a. The student adds to this request a statement from the examiner of the relevant subject on his/her cooperation to make the examination available for online proctoring.
  - b. The student must register for the examination via the normal procedure.

#### **Article 16 Procedure during examinations**

1. The examiner will ensure that invigilators are designated for written examinations. The invigilators will maintain order during the exams and ensure that they run smoothly, on behalf of and under the responsibility of the Board of Examiners. The invigilators will observe the 'Rules of procedure for assessments', which will be available in the examination location.
2. At the request of or on behalf of the Board of Examiners the student will be required to identify him/herself using his/her student ID or other valid proof of identity (a passport, ID card or driving licence).
3. The student must follow the instructions issued by the Board of Examiners, the examiner or the invigilator that have been published before the start of the examination and the instructions that are given during the examination or immediately after it has ended.
4. A student who does not comply with the provisions contained in or pursuant to the second and third subsection can be excluded from further participation by the Board of Examiners or the examiner. In these cases no mark will be recorded for the examination.
5. Examination paper and scrap paper will be provided. The student immediately writes down his/her name on all papers. Only the work written on examination paper will be assessed. The student must bring his/her own writing and drawing materials.
6. If the use of a calculator or other aid is permitted during an examination, the student must bring his/her own calculator or aid, which must be in compliance with the function limits determined by the Board of Examiners.<sup>1</sup> The examiner can deviate from this, provided the deviation is announced on Brightspace at the start of the course.

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<sup>1</sup> The permitted graphing calculators are:

- Casio FX-9750GII, FX-9860GII of FX-9860GII SD, CG20
- Hewlett Packard 39GII
- Sharp EL 9900
- Texas Instruments 83 plus, 84 plus silver edition of 84 plus C silver edition

7. During an examination the student cannot have in his/her possession nor can he/she consult any books, lecture notes, other notes or other documents unless the examiner has decided otherwise.
8. During an examination the student cannot use any pre-programmed calculators, computers, mobile telephones or other devices that have comparable functions unless the examiner has decided otherwise.
9. During an examination the student cannot copy from other students or exchange information and/or materials with other students in any manner whatsoever, either inside or outside the location where the examination is held.
10. Answers cannot be written in pencil unless the examiner has given permission to do so in advance.
11. The student cannot take the examination assignments with him/her after the examination has ended unless the examiner has decided otherwise.
12. Students who wish to participate in an examination more than 30 minutes after the examination in question has started will not be admitted.
13. The student is not permitted to leave the location where the examination is being held within 30 minutes after an examination officially starts. In urgent cases permission can be given to leave the location where the examination is being held after those 30 minutes have passed, under the supervision of an invigilator. No more than one student can be absent at any given time.
14. Before the student's final departure from the location where the examination is being held (not earlier than 30 minutes after the examination in question has started) the student must hand in the examination work, on which he/she has written his/her name and student number on each page, to the examiner or invigilator.

## Article 17 Assessment

1. The assessment method, including the weighing of components, is to be clear such that the student can ascertain how the result was reached.
2. Written examinations will be assessed, with due observance of the provisions contained in Article 14 subsection 1, on the basis of model answers and standards that have been laid down in writing in advance and that can be revised during correction.
3. A result will be indicated by a mark, a V (*voldaan* - pass), an O (*onvoldoende* - fail) or a VR (*vrijstelling* - exemption).
4. A final mark for a subject will be expressed in a whole mark or a half mark from 1.0 to 10.0. The meaning of the marks is as follows:
 

9.5 – 10.0	Excellent
8.5 – 9.0	Very good
7.5 – 8.0	Good
6.5 – 7.0	More than satisfactory
6.0	Satisfactory
4.5 – 5.5	Nearly satisfactory
3.5 – 4.0	Unsatisfactory
1.0 – 3.0	Very poor
5. If the marks are rounded off to half and whole figures, three-tenths, four-tenths, eight-tenths and nine-tenths will be rounded up and one-tenth, two-tenths, six-tenths and seven-tenths will be rounded down.
6. If a subject consists of more than one component, the subject overview in the study guide will indicate how the final mark will be determined. The following provisions apply in this respect:
  - The mark for a component examination will be expressed in tenths, where hundredths greater or equal to 0.05 will be rounded up and hundredths lower than 0.05 will be rounded down..
  - A result for a component examination or practical can be included in the determination of the final mark only if it is at least a 5.0.
  - A 5.8 is sufficient (satisfactory) for a partial mark.
7. Final marks that are earned in another degree programme at this or another Dutch university will be adopted as they have been given, as a whole figure or half figure or as a decimal figure. The definition that the other degree programme attributes to those marks will also be adopted.
8. Final marks that are earned in another degree programma at a university abroad will be indicated by a V (pass) or an O (fail).
9. If more than one result is earned for a subject, the highest result that has been earned will apply during the degree audit.

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- Texas Instruments TI-Nspire CX, only the version without CAS (the TI-Nspire CAS is not permitted). Texas Instruments also provides an externally mounted cradle which permits communication with an external computer. The cradle is not permitted.

Older types are also permitted, but it is possible that some assignments cannot be answered or are more difficult to answer using them.

#### **Article 18      Registration and publication of exams and practical results**

1. Article 20 of the Bachelor's Programme Regulations determines the manner in which the results of an examination will be published.
2. The examiner will send the results of examination to the Student Administration for registration, indicating the date on which the written examination was held or the oral examination was taken.
3. If practicals have been arranged as separate components, the examiner will send the results of those components to the Student Administration for registration, indicating the date on which the practical was completed.
4. The examiner can lay down further rules with respect to the final date on which a report can be submitted or on which a practical must be completed. These rules must be included in the subject overview contained in the study guide.

#### **Article 19      Official date of completed examinations and practicals**

1. The official date of an examination will be the date on which the written or oral examination was taken.
2. The date of a practical will be the date on which the final report is submitted or the oral final presentation is held. If there is no report or final presentation, the official date is the date on which the practical ends.

#### **Article 20      Retention of work and results**

1. Due to the possibility of appeals proceedings, student work that has been assessed, with the exception of three-dimensional projects, must be retained for at least two years after the date of the exam. Three-dimensional projects must be retained by the examiner for at least six weeks after the results have been published.
2. In connection with the re-accreditation of the study programme, in contravention to subsection 1, successfully completed Bachelor's Final Project work and the related evaluation forms must be retained for at least seven years.
3. In the event that no result has been published, the period referred to in subsection 1 will commence on the date on which the examination is held.
4. The results of examinations will be retained by the Student Administration for a period of at least 10 years.

### **Exemption**

#### **Article 21      Exemption application procedure**

An application for an exemption from all or part of a subject must be submitted to the Board of Examiners in writing, stating the reasons for the exemption request, together with any documentary evidence. The student must attach the recommendation of the examiner concerned to his/her application.

#### **Article 22      Official date of an exemption**

The official date of an exemption will be the date on which the Board of Examiners grants the exemption.

### **Further rules governing internships and projects**

#### **Article 23      Internships**

*Not applicable*

#### **Article 24      "Bouwplaats Civiele Techniek"**

*Not applicable*

#### **Article 25 Official date of internship and project results**

1. The official date of the completion of the internship will be the date on which the final report is submitted.
2. The official date of the completion of a project will be the date on which the final report or project is submitted or the date on which the oral final presentation is given.

### **Further rules governing Bachelor's Final Project**

#### **Article 26 Bachelor's Final Project**

*Not applicable*

#### **Article 27 Composition of the assessment committee for Bachelor's Final Project**

A committee will be appointed by or on behalf of the Board of Examiners for the assessment of the Bachelor's Final Project. That committee will consist of at least two examiners. The members of the assessment committee will in any event come from two different research groups of the degree programme.

#### **Article 28 Working method of the assessment committee**

1. The Bachelor's Final Project must be completed within the 10-week quartile in which the student begins working on it.<sup>2</sup>
2. The guide to the Bachelor's Final Project specifies the number of phases into which the work is divided.
3. The first phase concludes with a starting document that is assessed by the assessment committee. If the document is not approved, the student is not permitted to proceed with the Bachelor's Final Project in that quartile.
4. During the work for the Bachelor's Final Project, the assessment committee carries out at least one interim review in order to determine how the work is progressing. If progress is deemed unsatisfactory, the assessment committee can deny the student permission to proceed with the Bachelor's Final Project in that quartile.
5. At the end of the final phase, the student submits the final report on the work and gives a presentation on it. Both the report and the oral presentation are assessed by the assessment committee. The final report must be submitted on a date that allows sufficient time within the quartile for the final assessment, for an oral presentation and for supplementary work that can be required within the meaning of subsection 7.
6. The final assessment is based on the following aspects of the work, at the very least:
  - a. work attitude, initiative and independence
  - b. technical/content-related depth
  - c. the result achieved (the product) and/or the answering of the question
  - d. final report
  - e. oral presentation and self-evaluation
7. A student who achieves a final mark of 5.0 or 5.5 will be given one opportunity to submit a supplementary piece of work before the end of the quartile. The final result following the submission of a supplementary piece of work cannot be higher than 6.0.
8. The student must ensure that a proper report is drawn up of the discussions and reviews with the assessment committee.
9. A student cannot participate in the Bachelor's Final Project (or part of it) more than twice in the same academic year.

#### **Article 29 Official date of the Bachelor's Final Project results**

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<sup>2</sup> If a student is to work on the Bachelor's Final Project in the summer period, the term 'quartile' in this Article shall also mean 'the/a period of 8 weeks in the summer'.



The official date of completion of the Bachelor's Final Project will be the date on which the oral final presentation is given.

### **Curriculum components completed elsewhere**

#### **Article 30 Inclusion in the degree audit programme**

The number of credits to be submitted for the degree audit and that are derived from components for which an exemption has been granted and/or from curriculum components completed outside the major degree programme (degree programme except for the minor) cannot exceed a total of 40.

#### **Article 31 Provision of information**

1. In the event that a student has completed approved components taken outside the degree programme, the student is responsible for ensuring that the authorised agency issues a statement indicating the component in question by name and insofar as applicable by subject code, the associated study load (credits), the results, the date on which the results were earned and the date on which the statement was issued. The student must provide this information, including a grading table of the foreign university, to the Board of Examiners.
2. In the case of components taken abroad, the student must request the Board of Examiners to determine the scope in credits and to determine if the result is sufficient according to the grading table of the university abroad.

### **Pass and fail rules**

#### **Article 32 Pass and fail rules governing Bachelor's degree audit**

1. The student meets the requirements for the degree audit once the following have been met:
  - a. a result has been earned for all subjects: a mark, a pass (V) or an exemption (VR);
  - b. none of the marks can be lower than 6.0.
2. The method of assessment will be transparent so that the student can ascertain how the result was reached.
3. In special cases the Board of Examiners can deviate from the provisions of subsection 1 in favour or the student. It will stipulate additional requirements if necessary.

#### **Artikel 32A Pass and fail rules governing the Honours Programme Bachelor**

The student meets the requirements for the Honours Programme Bachelor once the following have been met:

- a. A pass mark has been achieved for all subjects in the Honours Programme Bachelor.
- b. The duration of study for the Bachelor's degree programme and the Honours Programme Bachelor from which any delay in studies due to circumstances beyond the student's control has been subtracted is a maximum of three years. In exceptional circumstances, the Board of Examiners can deviate from this time period in favour of the student.

#### **Artikel 32B Transitional measures regarding degree certificates for the Propedeutic and Bachelor's degree audit**

*Expired.*

### **Conferring the predicate 'cum laude'**

#### **Article 33 The designation 'cum laude' for Bachelor's degree audits**

1. A student can receive the designation 'cum laude' for the Bachelor's degree audit if the Board of Examiners decides to grant this distinction and the following requirements have been met:
  - a. the average of the results of the subjects not including the Bachelor Final Project and the minor is at least 8.0; passes (v) and exemptions (vr) will not be taken into consideration;

- b. the number of credits for the subjects for which a pass (v) has been earned or for which an exemption (vr) has been granted cannot exceed 40 credits in total. An exemption can be made when a student did a minor abroad.
  - c. The result for the Bachelor Final Project is at least 8.5.
  - d. Cum laude will not be awarded when a student committed fraud.
  - e. The duration of study as referred to in Article 2, part z of the BSc Teaching and Examination Regulations is no longer than 4 years in which any study delay acknowledged as part of the Graduation Support Scheme (RAS) is taken into account.
2. In special cases the Board of Examiners can decide to grant the designation 'cum laude' to a student who does not meet the requirements referred to in subsection 1 if the student in question has shown exceptional skills in the degree programme in question.

**Artikel 33A Transitional measures relating to granting the designation "cum laude" for Propaedeutic and Bachelor's examinations**

*Expired.*

**Degree certificates and results achieved**

**Article 34 Degree certificate, transcript and supplement**

1. A degree certificate will be issued by or on behalf of the Board of Examiners as evidence that the degree audit has been completed.
2. The degree certificate for the Bachelor's degree audit will be signed by one of the members of the Board of Examiners.
3. A supplement in English will be provided when the degree certificate is issued, which will in any event indicate the results achieved.
4. A certificate granting limited 2<sup>nd</sup> degree teacher (beperkte tweedegraads bevoegdheid) status in the Netherlands can be granted to a student by the Board of Examiners of the Science Education and Communication (SEC) Master's degree programme. . Provided that the student has completed the Bachelor's degree programme, the Board of Examiners grants the certificate if the following conditions have been met:
  - the student has successfully completed the minor Educatie, 30 credits (with all the results being at least a 6.0 or a pass),
  - the student is entitled to the status according to the "verwantschapstabel educatieve minor".
 The student will be qualified to teach in the first three years of "havo/vwo" and in the "theoretische leerweg vmbo".  
 If the Board of examiners grants the certificate, it will be mentioned on the degree certificate.

**Article 35 Statement of results achieved**

1. A student who has successfully taken one or more exams and to whom the degree certificate within the meaning of Article 34 cannot be issued when he/she leaves the university will receive a statement from the Board of Examiners upon request. That statement will indicate the student's personal data, subject code(s), subject name(s), number of credits, the result(s) and the date(s) on which the result(s) was/were earned.
2. A statement as referred to in subsection 1 must be requested from the Student Administration.

**Appeal and final provisions**

**Article 36 Appeals against decisions made by the Board of Examiners**

An appeal can be brought against a decision made by the Board of Examiners and/or an examiner within a period of six weeks after the person in question has been notified of the decision. Appeals can be brought before the Examination Appeals Board for the exams referred to in Article 7.60 of the Higher Education and Research Act. The Board of Examiners will refer to this possibility of appeal in its decision.

**Article 37 Amendments to the Rules and Guidelines of the Board of Examiners**

Rules and Guidelines BoE BSc AES 2017-2018

No amendments can be made to these Rules and Guidelines that apply to the current academic year unless the students' interests remain reasonably unaffected.

**Article 38      Unexpected circumstances**

Insofar as these Rules and Guidelines do not provide for specific circumstances, the Board of Examiners will make a decision that is in line with these Rules and Guidelines to every extent possible.

**Article 39      Entry into force**

These Rules and Guidelines will enter into force on 1 September 2017.

**Adopted by the Board of Examiners on August 25, 2017.**