

Landscape Architect Examination Development Update

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The Office of Professional Examinations Services provides

Professional consulting services in examination validation and development to DCA's boards, bureaus, and committees

Recommendations based on regulations, professional guidelines, and technical standards related to licensure examinations

Business and Professions Code Section 139



Principles for the Validation and Use of Personnel Selection Procedures (Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology)



Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing
(American Educational Research Association, American Psychological Association, National Council on Measurement in Education)



Regulations,
Standards,
and
Guidelines

Licensure Examinations

- Must provide a reliable method for identifying practitioners who are able to practice **safely and competently**
- Focus on entry-level tasks and knowledge important for **public protection**
- Uses input from **Subject Matter Experts**



Is a candidate who passes the LARE ready to perform landscape architecture safely and competently in California?



Is the job of Landscape Architect in California different from other states?



- *Public parks*
- *No irrigation system*
- *Late July 2019*



Cycle of Examination Development

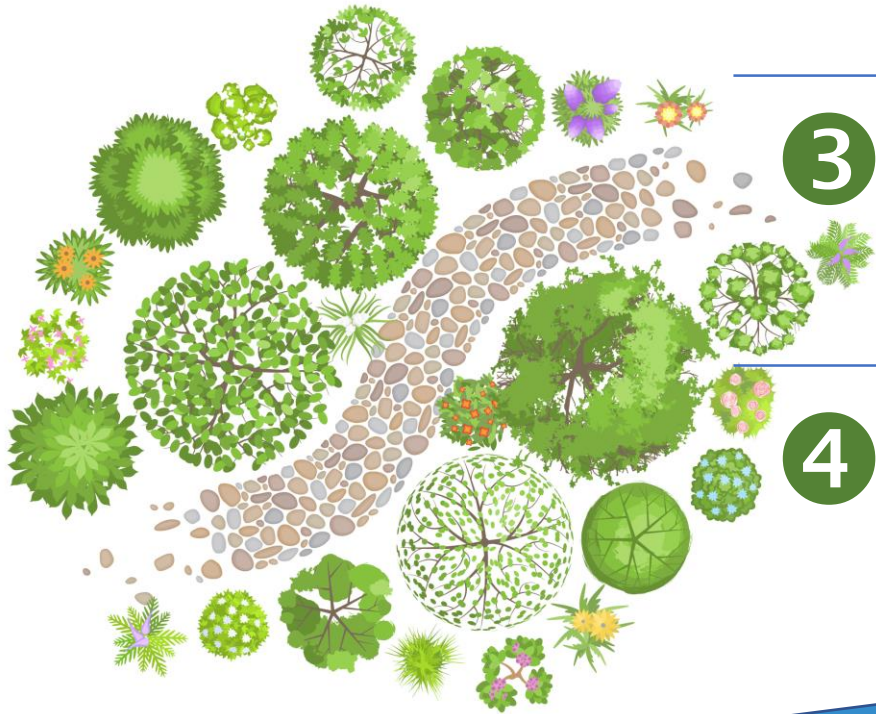
Client recruits
sufficient
number of
representative
SMEs



OPES facilitates
process and
ensures
psychometric
standards are
met

Purpose of Occupational Analysis (OA)

- 1 Provides a description of current practice
- 2 Provides the basis of job-related, fair, and legally defensible examinations
- 3 Establishes validity by linking examination content to critical job competencies
- 4 Provides basis for legislation and policies



OA Process

Conduct SME telephone interviews
and research on the profession

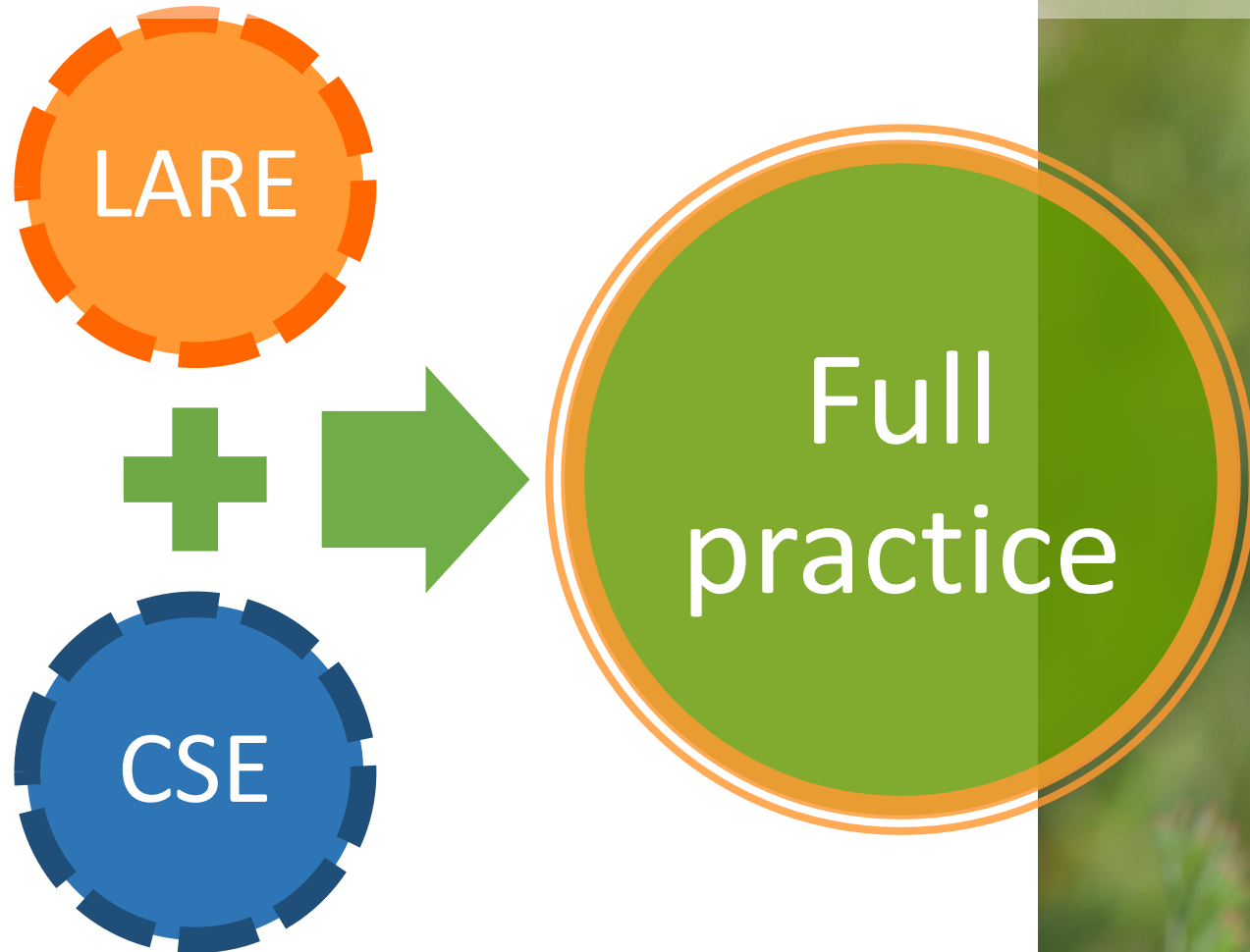
Develop Task and Knowledge
statements with SMEs

Develop, administer, and
analyze OA survey results

Review survey results with
SMEs

Develop examination outline
with SMEs

Occupational Analysis and CSE content



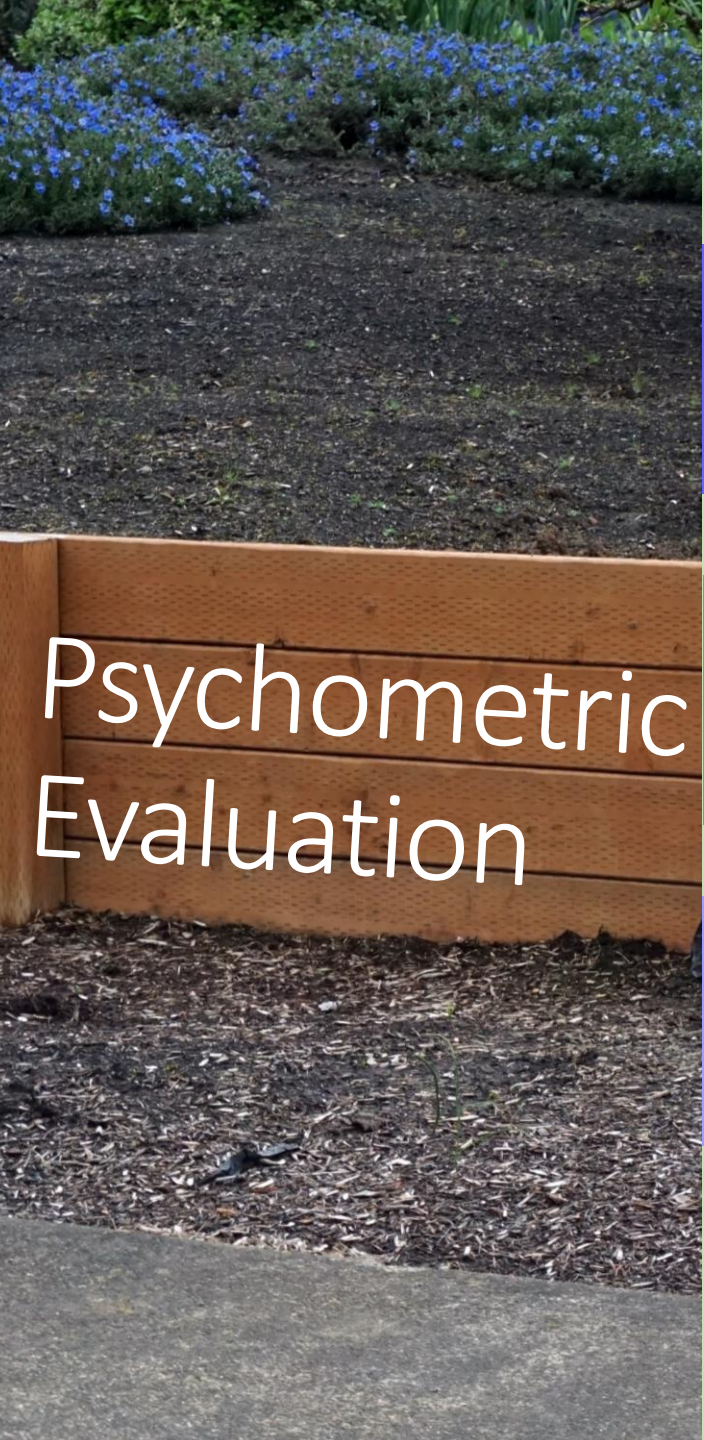
Review of National Examinations

Psychometric
Evaluation

SMEs
compare
national OA
to California
OA

Identification of any
critical entry level
content that is not
assessed





Psychometric Evaluation

Evaluate occupational
analysis

Review procedures for
developing examination

Review procedures for
establishing passing
scores

Review examination
scoring and passing
rates

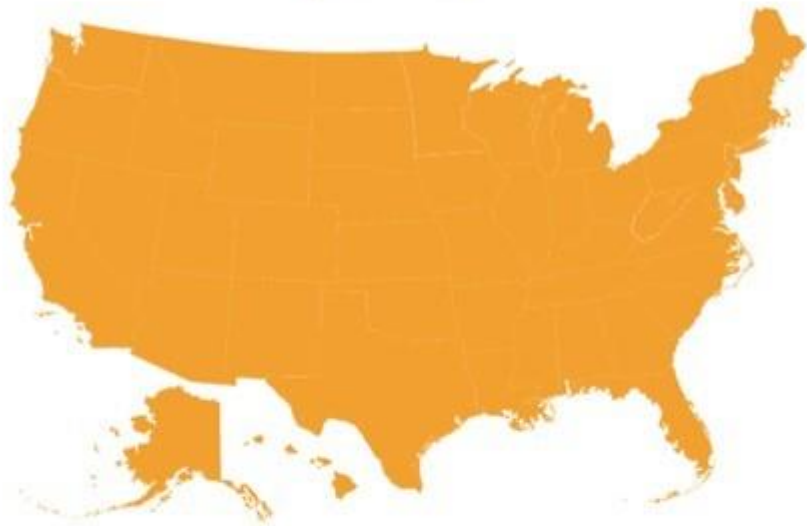
Review administration
and security procedures

Review information
available to candidates

SMEs compare National OA to California OA

What do Landscape Architects do in California that is unique to our state?

National examinations test core, mainstream practice.



FULL PRACTICE

California examinations test what is unique about practice in the state.

- **Geology**
- **Weather**
- **California health and safety laws**
- **California-specific practice areas**



OPES recommendations are based on the results of the OA and National Review



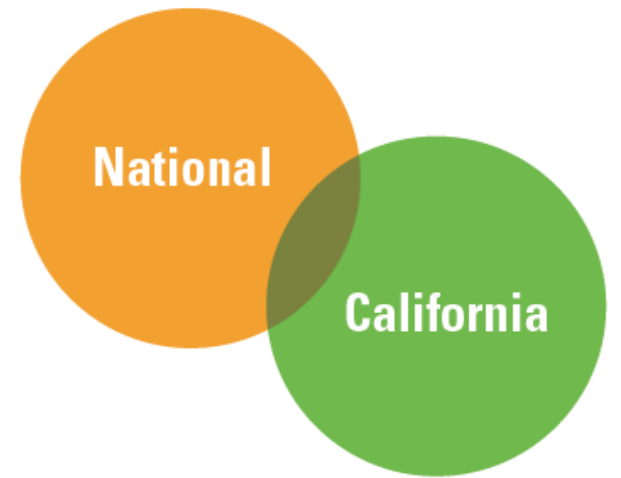
OPES recommendation:

- National examination
- California law examination



OPES recommendation:

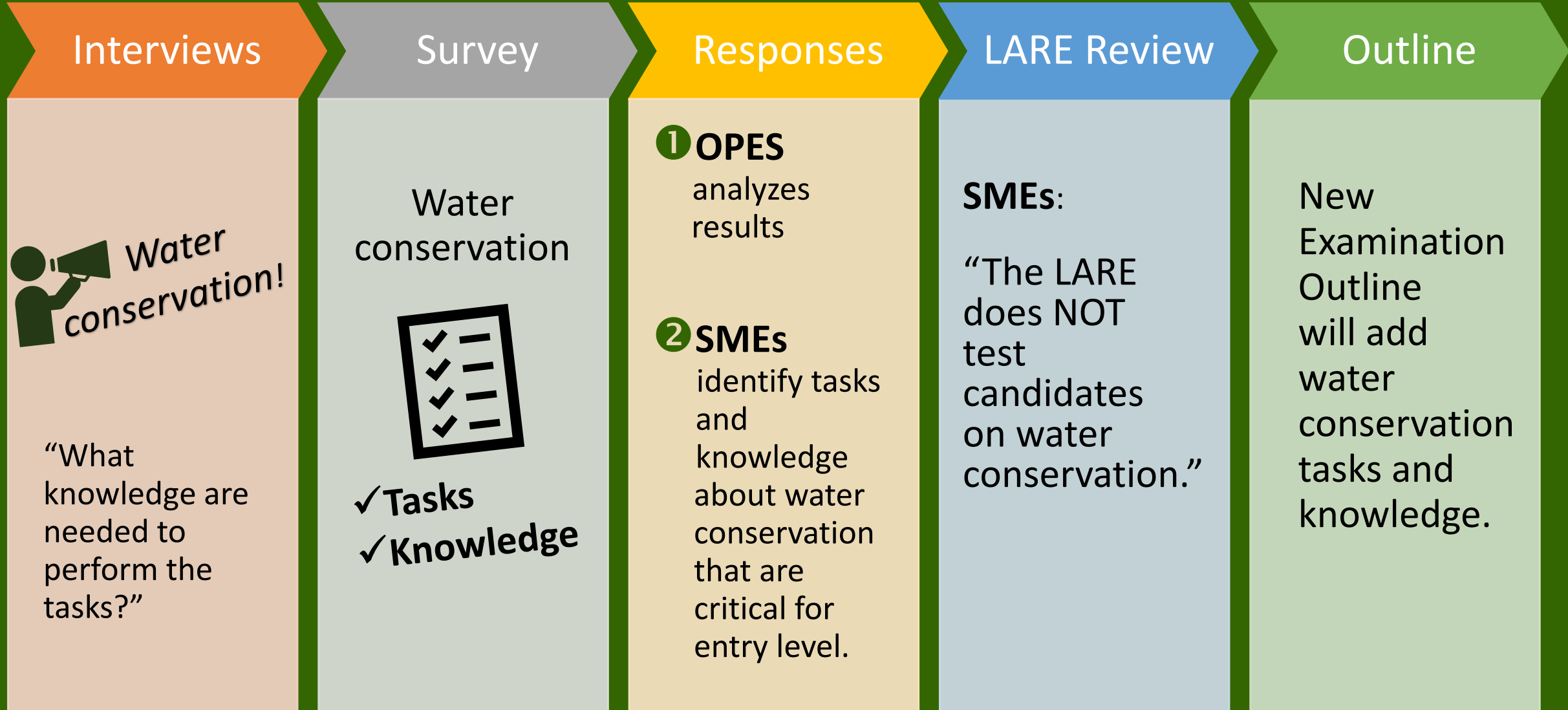
- National examination
- California-specific law and practice examination



OPES recommendation:

- California examination

An example of how an Occupational Analysis could change the content of the CSE



Timeline for the Landscape Architect Examination



Thank you

Any
questions?

