

Marking rules

According to the decision of the President of the European Patent Office dated 20 April 2022 adopting the rules concerning the establishment of a European Patent Administration Certification and in particular in view of Articles 3(2), 4 and 11 thereof, the EPAC Board has decided the following for the examination:

The first part of the examination will consist of a multiple-choice test of 15 questions.

For each question, the candidate will be asked to select the most correct answer from four alternative options.

This first part will be assessed using auto-marking and each question will carry the same weight.

The duration of the first part will be 90 minutes.

The first part of the examination will account for a third of the total points available.

Where a candidate gets seven or more questions correct, they will be considered to have passed the first part and their second part will be marked by the EPAC Board.

Where a candidate gets six or fewer questions correct, they will be considered not to have passed the first part; the examination will be considered failed and the second part will not be marked.

A break of three hours will take place between the first part and the second part of the examination.

The second part will consist of up to six open questions and will be marked by the EPAC Board.

The number of points attributed to each question will be indicated on the examination paper.

The duration of the second part will be two hours.

The second part of the examination will account for two-thirds of the total points available.

A candidate will be declared to have passed the examination if the sum of the points awarded for the first and second parts reaches at least 60% of the total points available.

For both parts of the examination, candidates are requested not to assume any additional facts not presented in the questions.

Marking will be carried out on the basis of the articles and rules in force on the day of the examination.

Candidates will not be asked to specify legal bases in their answers. The markers will focus on the reasoning followed by candidates and the conclusions reached.