

Munich, 2 December 2020

Information on the schedule for the EQE 2021 examination papers

General

The EQE 2021 exam schedule is now available. Candidates are advised that this document may be subject to minor changes as testing continues.

The EQE 2021 will take place online using LockDown Browser. On examination days, candidates are advised to log on to the online examination system's internet platform at least 20 minutes before the start of the relevant paper. Information on how to register and log on to the online examination system will be communicated in due course.

The pre-examination and both papers C and D will be split into parts. This means that candidates will not be free to allocate their time as they see fit across the different parts of the papers. To compensate for this restriction, the total duration of the relevant papers has been extended. Once the time allowed for a part has elapsed, it will not be possible to go back to that part.

Pre-examination - 1 March 2021

The pre-examination will have the same syllabus and character as before, but it will be split into four parts. Each part must be completed before the start of the next break, with the next set of questions only becoming available after the break. The pre-examination lasts four hours and forty minutes.

Candidates will be allowed to print the prior-art documents for the claim analysis parts before the start of the appropriate part. The documents allowed for printing will be made available during the break preceding the relevant claim analysis part.

Part	Content	Time	CET time
Part 1	5 x 4 legal questions	70 min	10.00-11.10 hrs
	Break	20 min	11.10-11.30 hrs
Part 2	5 x 4 legal questions	70 min	11.30-12.40 hrs
	Break	80 min	12.40-14.00 hrs
Part 3	5 x 4 claim analysis case 1	70 min	14.00-15.10 hrs
	Break	20 min	15.10-15.30 hrs
Part 4	5 x 4 claim analysis case 2	70 min	15.30-16.40 hrs

Paper D - 2 March 2021

Paper D will have the same syllabus and character as before, but it will be split into three parts. Each part must be completed before the start of the next break, with the next part only becoming available after the break. Paper D lasts six hours.

Candidates will be allowed to print only the calendar. For that purpose, the calendar will be made available well in advance before the start of paper D.

Part	Content	Time	CET time
D1 - 1	Part D1 - three questions (25 points)	90 min	9.30-11.00 hrs
	Break	30 min	11.00-11.30 hrs
D1 - 2	Part D1 - three questions (25 points)	90 min	11.30-13.00 hrs
	Break	45 min	13.00-13.45 hrs
D2	Part D2 (50 points)	3 hours	13.45-16.45 hrs

During part D2, candidates may take unscheduled breaks. Further instructions relating to taking unscheduled breaks will be communicated at a later stage. It should be noted, however, that the exam clock will continue to run during unscheduled breaks, i.e. the examination will not be stopped.

Paper A - 3 March 2021

Paper A will have the same syllabus and character as before. Paper A lasts four hours.

Candidates will be allowed to print the prior-art documents and the drawings of the application, but not the letter of the applicant. The documents allowed for printing will be made available approximately ten minutes before the start of the examination.

Part	Content	Time	CET time
Paper A	Full paper	4 hours	9.30-13.30 hrs

Candidates may take unscheduled breaks. Further instructions relating to taking unscheduled breaks will be communicated at a later stage. It should be noted, however, that the exam clock will continue to run during unscheduled breaks, i.e. the examination will not be stopped.

Paper B - 4 March 2021

Paper B will have the same syllabus and character as before. Paper B lasts 3.5 hours.

Candidates will be allowed to print the prior-art documents and the drawing(s), but none of the following: the description and claims of the application, the EPO communication, the client's letter and the amended claims. The documents allowed for printing will be made available approximately ten minutes before the start of the examination.

Part	Content	Time	CET time
Paper B	Full paper	3.5 hours	9.30-13.00 hrs

Candidates may take unscheduled breaks. Further instructions relating to taking unscheduled breaks will be communicated at a later stage. It should be noted, however, that the exam clock will continue to run during unscheduled breaks, i.e. the examination will not be stopped.

Paper C - 5 March 2021

Paper C will have the same syllabus and character as before, but it will be split into two parts. The first part is to be completed before the break, with the second part only becoming available after the break. It will not be possible to go back to the first part after the break. Paper C lasts six hours.

Candidates will be allowed to print everything except the claims of the patent in suit/opposed. The documents allowed for printing will be made available approximately ten minutes before the start of each part.

Part	Content	Time	CET time
C - 1	First part	3 hours	9.30-12.30 hrs
	Break	45 min	12.30-13.15 hrs
C - 2	Second part	3 hours	13.15-16.15 hrs

During both parts, candidates may take unscheduled breaks. Further instructions relating to taking unscheduled breaks will be communicated at a later stage. It should be noted, however, that the exam clock will continue to run during unscheduled breaks, i.e. the examination will not be stopped.