



SQE Update - October 2025

In this bulletin, find out about the latest SQE1 and SQE2 results, new guidance on SQE1 multiple choice questions, our helpful QWE training template and much more. You can also book for our upcoming 'SQE: four years on' session.

SQE1 July 2025 results now out

Results have been published for the most recent SQE1 sitting. A total of 5,851 candidates completed the assessment in July and the overall pass rate was 41%. This includes the highest number of resitters so far – almost 1 in 5 candidates. Those who sat it for the first time achieved a pass rate of 46%.

Read an [explanation of the results](https://sqa.org.uk/news-item/2025/10/01/july-2025-sqe1-statistical-report-published) [https://sqa.org.uk/news-item/2025/10/01/july-2025-sqe1-statistical-report-published] and the [full statistical report](https://sqa.org.uk/exam-arrangements/sqe-reports) [https://sqa.org.uk/exam-arrangements/sqe-reports].

SQE2 April 2025 results now out

Candidates continue to perform well at SQE2. Results for the April SQE2 sitting show an 84% pass rate among first-time candidates and an overall pass rate of 82% across all 2,753 candidates. This was the largest SQE2 entry yet for SQE2 – up 21% on April 2024.

[Find out more about the results](https://higher-rights.sqa.org.uk/news/news/april-2025-sqe2-results/) [https://higher-rights.sqa.org.uk/news/news/april-2025-sqe2-results/]

New guidance on SQE1 multiple choice questions

Following workshops with training providers, Kaplan has published updated guidance on the type of single best answer multiple choice questions used in SQE1. The new material explains both why they are used and how they are written. To support those creating study resources, and candidates preparing for the exam, there is a video on how to write effective questions.

[Take a look at the new guidance](https://sqa.org.uk/news-item/2025/09/23/single-best-answer-multiple-choice-questions-in-sqe1) [https://sqa.org.uk/news-item/2025/09/23/single-best-answer-multiple-choice-questions-in-sqe1]

SQE1 January 2026: booking now open

Bookings for the January 2026 SQE1 sitting are now open. Eligible candidates have been contacted to complete their seat reservation



forms. Once processed, they'll receive instructions on how to pay for their assessment.

[Check the key dates and next steps](https://sqa.sra.org.uk/booking/booking-sqa-assessments/january-2026-sqa1) [https://sqa.sra.org.uk/booking/booking-sqa-assessments/january-2026-sqa1]

Real stories from SQE candidates

We have published more case studies sharing real experiences from aspiring and qualified solicitors. From juggling work and study to navigating self-study and career changes, these stories offer practical insights and tips for anyone on the SQE journey.

[Read the case studies](https://higher-rights.sra.org.uk/become-solicitor/sqe/sqe-case-studies/) [https://higher-rights.sra.org.uk/become-solicitor/sqe/sqe-case-studies/]

Qualifying work experience training template

To support candidates and employers, we have a training template designed to support reflection, track development against the required competencies and identify any gaps. While not mandatory, the template is a useful tool and can also help solicitors when confirming the experience.

[Take a look at the training template](https://higher-rights.sra.org.uk/become-solicitor/sqe/qualifying-work-experience-candidates/qwe-training-template/) [https://higher-rights.sra.org.uk/become-solicitor/sqe/qualifying-work-experience-candidates/qwe-training-template/]

SQE exemptions for qualified lawyers

Qualified lawyers may be eligible for an SQE assessment exemptions based on their legal qualifications and professional experience. To apply, candidates must demonstrate that their qualifications and/or experience match the content and standard assessed in the SQE. Our online exemption finder shows whether a SQE2 exemption is available for specific qualifications and is updated regularly.

[Find out more and check your eligibility](https://higher-rights.sra.org.uk/become-solicitor/qualified-lawyers/sqe-exemptions/) [https://higher-rights.sra.org.uk/become-solicitor/qualified-lawyers/sqe-exemptions/]

Annual monitoring report for the LPC route

We've published our annual quality assurance report on the Legal Practice Course (LPC) route. This covers the academic year 2023-24 and again highlighted the very different pass rates between LPC providers. This was one of the reasons for the introduction of the centralised SQE assessment to be taken by all candidates.



[Read the report \[https://higher-rights.sra.org.uk/sra/research-publications/education-training-monitoring-2023-24/\]](https://higher-rights.sra.org.uk/sra/research-publications/education-training-monitoring-2023-24/)

Help shape future law school-firm partnerships

Last chance to complete our short survey and support research into partnerships between law schools and legal firms. This should take no more than 15 minutes to complete and closes on Friday 3 October.

[Complete the survey today \[https://form.sra.org.uk/s3/Law-school-partnerships-25/\]](https://form.sra.org.uk/s3/Law-school-partnerships-25/)

SQE: four years on (YouTube)

When: Tuesday 4 November, 14.00 – 15.00

As part of Compliance Officers Virtual Conference week, this session will explore key insights from the SQE so far, including performance trends and improvements in candidate experience. We'll also provide updates on qualifying work experience and offer employer and newly qualified solicitor perspectives. We will spotlight solicitor apprenticeships – who they're for, how they work and how employers can use them to diversify recruitment and grow talent from within.

[Book your place now \[https://events.sra.org.uk/sra/752/home\]](https://events.sra.org.uk/sra/752/home)

Other ways to get involved

Join our [LinkedIn reference group \[https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8548868/\]](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8548868/). It will help you keep up to date with the latest SQE developments and opportunities to get involved in our surveys and events.

If you are thinking about taking the SQE, or know someone who is, please follow [Career in Law \[https://www.facebook.com/careerinlaw\]](https://www.facebook.com/careerinlaw) for the latest information aimed at aspiring solicitors.

If you have any questions, or want more information on how you can get involved, [contact us \[https://higher-rights.sra.org.uk/home/contact-us/\]](https://higher-rights.sra.org.uk/home/contact-us/).

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