

ISBQPIP Exam Regulations for the exams of 2021

1. Set-up of the exam

The exam will be held over 2 days, one day for the search paper and one day for the analysis paper. To enable every candidate to sit the exam at reasonable hours, the exam will be provided in 5 different time zones, where the two days will be structured as follows:

Tuesday 23 February 2021
Novelty/Opposition Validity Search Case Study (4 hrs)
<i>Break (1 hr)</i>
Patent Infringement Risk Search Case Study (4 hrs)

Thursday 25 February 2021
General Theory Short Answer Questions (0.5 hr)
<i>Break (0.5.hr)</i>
Legal Analysis Case Study (3 hrs)
<i>Break (1 hr)</i>
Patent Landscape Essay Questions (1 hr)
Patent Landscape Case Study (3 hrs)

2. Candidates can sit the online examination at any suitable location, e.g. at home or at their workplace. However, no other person is allowed to be in the room with the candidate.
3. During each part of the examination, candidates may take unscheduled breaks. It should be noted, however, that the exam clock will continue to run during unscheduled breaks, i.e. the examination will not be stopped.
4. Candidates should use a computer with the following system requirements
 - a. Any of the following browsers can be used: Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Safari, Edge, Opera. However, Firefox or Chrome are recommended for better interface experience and faster response.
 - b. The email client and server should be properly configured to receive messages from info@qipip.org and exam@qipip.org. (e.g., add them as a Contact in your contacts list)
 - c. The computer should be equipped with a webcam, either in the computer or as additional hardware.

- d. The computer should be connected to a stable broadband internet connection.
5. Candidates will be allowed to print the text of the case studies and the documents that are provided for downloading. However, the questions/descriptions of the case studies and any related documents will not be made available any sooner than at the start of the examination part.
6. Candidates will not be allowed to use any form of communication regarding the content of the examination with other persons during the examination.
7. Candidates are required to use a webcam. This webcam will be used to take a photo of the candidate and their identification at the beginning of each exam part and to randomly take photos during the exam part. The webcam should be turned on at all times during the exam part. If during examination of the photos, photos are found on which the candidates are not, or not clearly visible, this will be considered as fraudulent behaviour. All photos will be removed from the ISBQPIP systems when marking is finalized and no indications of fraudulent behaviour have been detected.
8. Candidates should be aware that further fraud detection methods will be applied to the results provided by the candidate.
9. For the case studies of the search paper and the patent landscaping case study of the analysis search paper, the candidates should use their own database(s) and tools, with the restriction that the working language of the database(s) must be English as all answers including any search histories and search results must be in English. If candidates don't have access to an (English interface) database, they should contact the ISBQPIP (secretariat@qip.org) at least two weeks before the exam in order for the ISBQPIP to be able to arrange any alternatives.
10. Each exam part will be accompanied by instructions on how to answer.
11. Candidates will be allowed to look things up during each of the exam parts. However, it should be noted that during each of the two theory exam parts, candidates will then probably not have sufficient time to finish the exam part within the given time frame.
12. The exam parts will either be automatically marked (in case of multiple-choice questions) or manually. Manual marking will be performed by two markers independently.
13. If both markers score the exam part with 60% or more of the maximum number of marks for that exam part, then the candidates have passed that exam part. If both markers score the exam part with 45% or less of the maximum number of marks for that exam part, then the candidates have failed that exam part. In all other cases the markers will discuss the marking between them. If no agreement on a final marking can be obtained, the marking will be considered by the full Examination Committee.

14. Candidates shall have passed the examination if they have met all of the following requirements:
 - a. Search case studies: the candidate should have 55% or more of the maximum number of marks that can be obtained for **each** case study
 - b. General theory questions: 55% or more of the maximum number of marks
 - c. 'Legal' analysis case study: 55% or more of the maximum number of marks

 - d. Patent Landscaping theory questions: 60% or more of the maximum number of marks (max 30 points)
 - e. Patent Landscaping case study: 60% or more of the maximum number of marks (max 70 points)
AND
 - f. the total number of points for the patent landscaping questions and the patent landscaping case study together should be 70% or more of the maximum number of points for the questions and the case study together, in order to pass the patent landscaping examination part

15. In the case candidates fail one or more of the six examination parts, they can re-sit each of the six examination parts twice at the next two opportunities that the examination will be held, by applying for the applicable parts and paying the examination re-sit fee(s). If no PASS grade was obtained for all examination parts after three examination opportunities in total, then the candidate will have to re-sit the full examination, i.e. all six parts.

16. Appeal is possible concerning a decision that a candidate failed the exam or part thereof. The appeal will be handled in accordance with Rule 17.

17. For each candidate the result of the exam and the marks scored will be kept for 2 years after the result of the exam has been sent to the candidate.

18. Candidates will be required to fill in an examination declaration form. This declaration is to confirm the candidates' understanding of the examination regulations. The form will be sent to the candidates around two weeks before the first day of the examination. It should be signed and sent within one week to exam@qipip.org.