

# SQE exemptions: questions and answers

Exemption from the SQE assessments is only available to qualified lawyers. To help explain all your options we have put together these questions and answers.

## *General questions about SQE exemptions*

Open all [#]

### *If my application is refused can I make another application for exemption?*

Yes, but you would need to provide new evidence and information than in your previous application.

### *Can I sit SQE1 while awaiting an SQE2 exemption decision?*

Yes, if you are ready to sit SQE1 you can do this alongside making your exemption application. Any results from this exam will not affect the decision.

And if the exemption is not granted you will need to have passed SQE1 before you are allowed to sit SQE2.

### *Is there a time limit on when I have to sit any additional assessments if I have an exemption?*

No, there is no time limit. Please see the SQE assessment website for more on the exam dates [<https://sqa.sra.org.uk/about-sqa/what-is-the-sqa/timings>] .

## *SQE1 exemptions*

### *Can I rely on pre-qualification experience to demonstrate the SQE1 competences?*

No, pre-qualification experience is below the threshold standard [<https://www.sra.org.uk/solicitors/resources/continuing-competence/cpd/competence-statement/threshold-standard/>] of a newly qualified solicitor.

## *SQE2 exemptions*

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*I have booked a place on the SQE1 assessment before my SQE2 exemption has been approved. Do I need to do anything?*

Not at this point. If you get an exemption, you will need to confirm this in your SQE account [<https://sqa.sra.org.uk/registering-and-booking/exemptions>] .

*Can I rely on pre-qualification experience as part of my two years' work experience for SQE2 exemption?*

No, pre-qualification experience is completed below the threshold standard [<https://www.sra.org.uk/solicitors/resources/continuing-competence/cpd/competence-statement/threshold-standard/>] of a newly qualified solicitor.