

SQE Update – May 2021

In this bulletin find out about the new SQE assessment website, a change to the SQE1 Assessment Specification and what employers need to consider when thinking about qualifying work experience. Plus, how you can get involved in our next series of webinars.

Subscribe to alerts [[/sra/news/sqe-update/sqe-subscribe/](#)] letting you know when we publish the latest SQE Update bulletin.

SQE assessment website now live

The SQE assessment website is now available. This has been developed by working closely with users and offers information about the assessment in one place. Information you can find includes:

- the SQE Assessment Specifications and sample questions
- assessment dates
- where candidates can sit the assessments
- how candidates will be able to register for the SQE and book assessments
- what to expect on the day of an SQE assessment
- SQE-related policies.

Candidates will register and book for assessments through this website. Registration will open in the summer, ahead of the booking window opening for the first SQE1 assessment which is taking place in November.

Take a look at the website [<https://sqe.sra.org.uk>]

Advocacy standards amendment in SQE1 Assessment Specification

We have made a minor amendment to the SQE1 Assessment Specification. In Dispute Resolution, we have added wording to trial procedure to include modes of address, court room etiquette and the difference between leading and non-leading questions. This is due to our ongoing work on advocacy standards and will bring it in line with the equivalent section relating to the procedures and processes in Criminal Litigation.

View the updated SQE1 Assessment Specification [<https://sqe.sra.org.uk/exam-arrangements/assessment-information>]

Progress update on our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Risk Assessment

In April we published an update on progress against the commitments made in the July 2020 SQE EDI risk assessment. This includes information about how we are recruiting and training assessors and question writers, the appointment of Pye Tait Consulting to develop our SQE evaluation framework and publication of resources for candidates about the range of SQE training options open to them.

Read our update [[/sra/policy/solicitors-qualifying-examination/edi-risk-assessment/progress-update-2020-2021/](#)]

Qualifying work experience – what employers need to consider

We have published information for law firms and other qualifying work experience (QWE) providers on what to consider when thinking about their QWE approach. For example:

- Who in your organisation will confirm QWE – would it be each supervising solicitor or one in a more central role, such as the COLP?
- Do your current systems or processes already help the individual confirming QWE to check what a candidate has done?
- Who in your organisation will deal with requests from previous employees to confirm their QWE?

Take a look to learn more [[/become-solicitor/sqe/qualifying-work-experience-employers/organisation-approach-qualifying-work-experience/](#)]

#SQEready – what employers are doing

We're showcasing how law firms and other organisations are getting ready for the SQE. Our latest case studies are now live and feature the BBC, the City Consortium of law firms and KPMG.

Read more [[/sra/news/sqe-update/sqe-ready-case-study/](#)]

If you are interested in getting involved in #SQEready, get in touch [<https://form.sra.org.uk/s3/SQEready>].

Get involved

Live webinars

SQE assessments - practical information for training providers and employers

When: 11.00 on 17 May

What: Get all the latest information on the SQE to further help training providers and employers prepare for its September introduction. Find out about the new SQE website, assessment booking process and assessment timings

Who: Benedict Fisher, Director of Communications, SRA (Chair), Julie Brannan, Director of Education and Training, SRA, Yiannis Chrysanthou, Head of Stakeholder Engagement, Kaplan and Zoe Robinson, Director of Learning and Qualifications, Kaplan

Book now [<https://events.sra.org.uk/sra/528/home>]

SQE assessments – practical information for candidates

When: 14.30 on 17 May 2021

What: Targeted at aspiring solicitors, get the facts ahead of its September introduction. Learn about the SQE registration and booking process, assessment timings and what to expect on the day

Who: Benedict Fisher, Director of Communications, SRA (Chair), Julie Brannan, Director of Education and Training and SRA, Yiannis Chrysanthou, Head of Stakeholder Engagement,

Kaplan

Book now [<https://events.sra.org.uk/sra/529/home>]

Qualifying work experience - what law clinics need to know

When: 13.30 on 26 May

What: This webinar is targeted at law clinics currently offering hands-on-legal experience to law school students, or those who might in the future. Join us to get the latest information on what QWE is and what it means for law clinics, including practical tips for those implementing QWE. It may also be of interest to students interested in gaining QWE through a law clinic and want helpful tips.

Who: Lucy Blackburn, Trustee at the Clinical Legal Education Organisation and Senior Lecturer, University of Central Lancashire, Benedict Fisher, Director of Communications, SRA and Richard Williams, Policy Manager, SRA [<https://events.sra.org.uk/sra/535/home>]

Book now [<https://events.sra.org.uk/sra/535/home>]

On demand webinars

Apprenticeships: what law firms need to know

This webinar offers practical advice and information on what it could mean for your firm and how to go about it. Alongside the SRA, hear from the Government's Education and Skills Agency on funding and law firms who have apprentices - Karen Bailey, Bailey Wright & Co Solicitors and Catherine Knight, Eversheds Sutherland [[/sra/news/events/on-demand-events/apprenticeships-law-firms/](#)]

Watch now [[/sra/news/events/on-demand-events/apprenticeships-law-firms/](#)]

Other ways to get involved

Join our LinkedIn reference group [<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>] 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 [[/home/contact-us/](#)].

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Find out more about the SQE [<https://www.sra.org.uk/sqe/>].