

# **SQE logistics: SQE1 what happens on the day**

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# About this document

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Working with our assessment provider Kaplan, we plan to launch an SQE website in spring 2021. A single authoritative source for candidates, training providers and other stakeholders, it will provide all the relevant details about the SQE assessment and how it will operate.

Ahead of the launch of this website, we are sharing key information to help stakeholders understand how the SQE will operate. This will include publishing key policies and procedures as well as practical information about the assessment logistics. We have set out our plans for when we plan to publish information in our [SQE information strategy](#).

This document sets out what a candidate can expect to happen on the day when taking SQE1.

## **Please note:**

This document is a draft representation of the information that will appear on the SQE website. In order to help stakeholders, we have provided this information as far in advance as possible.

We are in the process of finalising the complete suite of information for the SQE website. This means that some details in this document, such as links to further relevant information or the correct email address to contact, are still to be confirmed. We are also working with users to further refine this content to make it as user-friendly as possible.

A new Candidate Services team will be up and running once the new SQE website is live and will be able to assist with any questions at that point.

# SQE1 - what happens on the day

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## SQE1 Assessment Day

### Where is the assessment centre and at what time should I arrive?

You will receive an email after booking and paying for your SQE1 assessment with confirmation of the address of the assessment centre, the time at which you must report to the assessment centre to go through the booking in process, the start time of the assessment and the length of the assessment day.

You must be on time. If you are late, you cannot enter the assessment.

### What happens between arrival at the test centre and the start of the assessment?

When you arrive, you will register and complete ID and security checks and security procedures. Carefully check the information in your booking confirmation email before setting off for your assessment.

Watch a video showing [what happens when you arrive at the test centre](#).

Once you are seated at your workstation, you are required, onscreen, to:

- make a Fit to Sit declaration
- confirm that you understand that the content of the assessment is confidential and that you are bound by the Assessment Regulations (the NDA).

If you don't complete the requirements you won't be allowed to take the assessment. If you feel that something has happened that may affect your performance during the assessment, hence why you haven't completed the requirements, you can submit a claim for mitigating circumstances, even at this late stage.

### What is in the PearsonVUE testing rules?

Key points in the PearsonVUE testing rules:

- No personal items (including but not limited to mobile phones, other electronic devices, watches, purses, books and notes) are allowed in the assessment room. There will be a secure place to store your items during the assessment.
- You will be provided with an erasable whiteboard notepad and marker pen to be used only during the assessment. These must be handed in at the end of the assessment.
- The test administrator will:
  - log you onto your assigned workstation.
  - verify that you are taking the intended assessment
  - start the assessment.

Once the assessment has started, you must remain in your assigned seat until escorted out by a test administrator.

- You must not eat, drink, chew gum, smoke or make noise that disturbs other candidates during the assessment.
- You will be monitored at all times during the assessment. This can include CCTV recordings.
- You must leave the assessment room during all breaks. After all breaks ID checks are carried out before you will be readmitted to the assessment room.
- During any unscheduled breaks:
  - the exam timer is not stopped.
  - you are not permitted to have access to personal belongings.
- You must notify the test administrator immediately of any problems or distractions which affect your ability to do the assessment by raising your hand.
- Test administrators cannot answer questions about the content of the assessment.

**Can I take any personal possessions into the assessment?**

No. As storage space is limited, you should bring only a small bag – all personal belongings must be deposited in the secure lockers provided.

**Is there a dress code for the SQE1?**

No. You can wear what you feel comfortable in, but you may be asked to remove bulky external clothing during security checks.

**How long is SQE1?**

SQE1 consists of two assessments that are taken on two separate days. On each day, the assessment is divided into two sessions of 2 hours, 33 minutes (or 153 minutes in total), with 90 questions in each session.

**Can I leave the assessment rooms during the assessment?**

During any unscheduled breaks you may leave the assessment room only to use the bathroom, have a drink of water or obtain medication. If you think you will need to take medication during the assessment, please contact us in advance.

**If I finish early, can I leave immediately?**

No. You cannot leave either session of the assessment early.

**Will I have a scheduled break between the assessment sessions?**

Yes. A 60-minute break is scheduled at the end of Session 1. Please return within 50 minutes.

During the break you may:

- leave the assessment centre
- have access to your personal belongings.

**Important:** Before the end of the scheduled break you must re-register for Session 2. We recommend that you are back in the assessment centre within 50 minutes to allow time for re-registration. Please note that latecomers will not be admitted to Session 2.

### **Are refreshments provided?**

No. You may bring bottled water to the assessment centre - this can be accessed during the unscheduled breaks. You must make your own arrangements for food and other refreshments for the scheduled break and if in doubt, should bring your own supplies.

### **How long is each SQE1 day?**

The booking confirmation email will confirm the length of your day. The total amount of time is given in minutes and includes the:

- Explanatory tutorial.
- Time allowed to deal with the Fit to Sit declaration and the NDA.
- 60- minute scheduled break (remember to return within 50 minutes to re-register for session 2).

## **What to expect at the test centre**

SQE does not have exclusive occupancy of Pearson VUE test centres and you should be aware that test rooms may be occupied by candidates who are sitting an assessment of a different length.

We do not guarantee that the test environment will be silent. If you need silence, you will need to apply for a reasonable adjustment, and if granted, you may use earplugs or noise cancelling headphones, but not audio headphones.

Every effort is made to provide a quiet environment. But test centres are sited in city centres, and we have no control over building or traffic noise which may occur outside the test centre.

### **Identification and security**

For full details on ID and security, please see the information we have published on ID verification.