

Policy on Oral exams

1. Candidates may be called for an oral exam on any or all of the papers attempted.
2. Oral exams will normally only be set where a candidate has failed, borderline passed or been unable to sit an exam, or where there are concerns about authenticity of the initial exam submission. A borderline pass is a mark of D3 on the Law Society’s grading scale. A fail, borderline pass or failure to sit an exam will not provide an automatic right to an oral exam.
3. The proposal to hold an oral exam will typically come from the relevant examiner. The final decision to hold an oral exam will lie with the Convener of the Board of Examiners, whom failing the Vice-Convener. Candidates do not have a right to request an oral exam.
4. An oral exam will ordinarily take place within 30 days of the candidate being notified of their results by the Law Society. Candidates should have at least two weeks’ notice of an oral exam being called. Full details of the arrangements for oral exams will be given to candidates if they are called.
5. Oral exams can be conducted in-person or remotely, at the decision of the Convener, whom failing the Vice Convener.
6. At least two examiners should be in attendance for an oral exam – ideally the examiner of the subject being examined and the Convener or Vice-Convener, or such other examiner as is appointed by the Convener, whom failing the Vice-Convener. A member of Law Society staff will also be in attendance.
7. Where a candidate is called for an oral exam, they may be questioned on:

i) any answers attempted; and/or

ii) any part of the exam paper sat; and/or

iii) any aspect of the syllabus.

1. There is no fee for an oral exam.

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