

Patent Examination Board  
Notice

**Law Changes for 2024 Qualifying Examinations**

The PEB examinations are based this year on legal texts and case law which were in force on **1 April 2024**.

Candidates will not be penalised for basing their answers on any amendments to the law enacted after 1 April 2024, or any case law published after 1 April 2024, and before the date of the examination. However, candidates must be consistent in their application of any recent changes in the law and are advised to mention in their answer if they are relying on provisions of law enacted or published after 1 April 2024.

In relation to COVID-19, all dates and deadlines are to be taken as if the COVID-19 suspension had not occurred.

Candidates are reminded that when answering questions in the Final Examination papers, they should not need to use technical knowledge which extends beyond that provided in the paper itself i.e. the exam scenarios are to be taken in context and external knowledge is not to be used.

Some changes have taken place in the year to 1 April 2024. Here is the PEB advice in relation to these changes.

**FC2 – English Law**

Please note that the syllabus has been updated this year to reflect the updates to the IPREG Code of Conduct in July 2023.

IPREG's website, explaining the changes to the Code of Conduct, including a webinar to outline the key changes is here - <https://ipreg.org.uk/pro/ipregs-regulatory-arrangements>

**FC3 – International Patent Law**

*"EPO – The Unitary Patent system entered into force on 1 June 2023. In relation to obtaining, maintaining and managing Unitary Patents, please see the link to the EPO guide below:*

[https://link.epo.org/web/unitary\\_patent\\_guide\\_en.pdf](https://link.epo.org/web/unitary_patent_guide_en.pdf)".