



**DELTA PATENTS**



Training for Patent Professionals

**OVERVIEW**  
**EQE TRAINING**  
**PRE-EXAM AND**  
**MAIN EXAM**

EQE 2020 EDITION

# DELTAPATENTS WELCOMES YOU

## Why DeltaPatents?

DeltaPatents is a **patent attorney firm** based in the Netherlands with a passion for quality. We provide the highest quality advice and service to public and private companies at various stages of growth from start-up to Fortune 500. Our patent specialists have a deep technological knowledge and extensive industrial experience. Through our education activities, we stay ahead in terms of law changes, case law and procedural requirements.

We are proud to be a leading training organization for the **European Qualifying Examination (EQE)**. Our renowned courses can be followed throughout Europe. We offer a complete range of courses and high quality training material for the EQE. The knowledge and experience gained during more than 15 years of EQE training provides a solid basis for our comprehensive range of training courses in different areas. We offer **Continuing Education of Patent Attorneys** (e.g. patent law update course, a Unitary Patent course, and various IP master classes) across Europe as well as outside. For **R&D** (R&D managers, researchers, developers, inventors, entrepreneurs, IP management, IP coordinators and tech-transfer officers), we provide targeted IP tutorials and several workshops. These can also be organized in-house at your organization, open to other participants or exclusively in-house.

*“It was a pleasure to study with such a skilled and nice instructor”*

Our **blogs** keep you up-to-date on the EQE, EPO Case law, Patent procedures, Unitary Patent and Patent News.



In 2006 we started **training IP support staff**, culminating in a full training program preparing for the official Dutch Formalities Officers exam. The program includes training modules directed to EPC and PCT formalities. These training modules are offered throughout Europe.

Our training focuses on giving insight and understanding, and ensuring that the acquired knowledge can be practically applied. Unique for DeltaPatents is that we thoroughly train and guide our tutors. For our tutors, training is a profession, mastered by teamwork and frequent involvement in courses. We take feedback of attendants seriously and act on it. For us, quality and customer satisfaction are essential.

## DeltaPatents' personal touch

We believe in teaching and treating candidates with a personal touch. You will be trained in small groups, giving ample opportunity to discuss unclear issues in more detail and get personal assistance. Hospitality is important to us. For participants staying in Eindhoven for courses of multiple days, we organize a social event, such as a dinner or a trip to a local place of interest. We welcome contact (e.g. via e-mail, telephone or video chat) with our tutors to ask follow-up questions, to clarify course materials or to report mistakes.





# OVERVIEW

# EQE TRAINING

## PRE-EXAM AND

## MAIN EXAM

### Impact of the Pre-Exam

Candidates intending to take the Main Exam in 2021 must pass this Pre-Exam first, unless they already taken an exam in 2012 or earlier.

The Pre-Exam is intended to be a barrier to keep unprepared candidates with no chance of passing from needlessly increasing the workload of the EQE Examination Committees.

As the Pre-Exam will only be held once each year at the same time as the Main Exam, candidates for Main-Exam 2020 must already start in 2019 with study and preparation.

The Main Exam is very similar to the old (since 2012) EQE, except for a slight reduction in duration and content. The level of knowledge, experience and exam technique required to pass the Main Exam is the same as the old EQE.



### The Pre-Exam

The Pre-Exam comprises legal (D) and claim interpretation/analysis (A/B) elements. Although the format is multiple-choice, the questions and marking are designed to prevent success by guessing.

It is assumed that candidates for EQE Main Exam 2021 spend the preceding 3 years training in both legal and practical aspects. The Pre-Exam is designed to test the knowledge and skills that a trainee patent attorney can be expected to have after 2 years of following comprehensive 3-year preparation for the Main Exam.

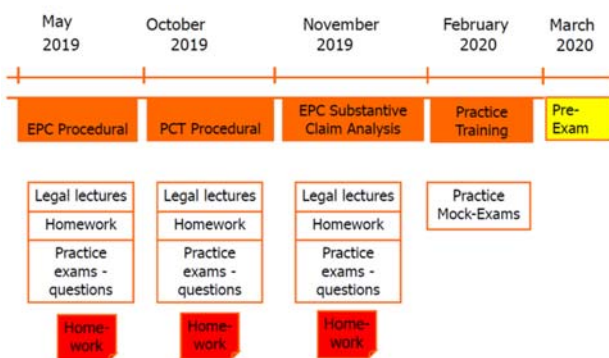
The legal knowledge required is defined by the Examination Board as covering the same legal topics as for the EQE Main Exam Paper D. At its core is a test designed to replace most of the old DI paper. Multiple-choice means that candidates do not need to formulate their own answers and generate possible options, but only judge the options given. However, these options may only differ by one minor aspect or by the legal reasoning given, and it is not possible to explain why an answer is chosen. “Almost right” is awarded zero points. So, a complete understanding of the core EPC and PCT topics, and practice in applying these topics is essential. The claim drafting knowledge required is similar to the level required for the A and B papers of the Main Exam, including competence in the Problem-Solution Approach. Again, it is not necessary to formulate the final answer, but candidates must be able to formulate their own good answers so that they can compare them with the options given.

## The Main Exam comprises 4 papers:

- **Paper A: Drafting**  
A four hour paper designed to assess the candidates' ability to draft claims and the introductory part of a European patent application, based upon a letter from a client.
- **Paper B: Reply to an Office Action**  
A three and a half hour paper to assess candidates' ability to reply to an official communication in which prior art has been cited, based upon a copy of the application and a clients' letter containing instructions.
- **Paper C: Opposition**  
A five and a half hour paper to assess candidates' ability to draft a notice of opposition to a European patent, based upon a copy of the patent, at least three prior art documents and a letter from the client.
- **Paper D: Legal**  
A five and a half hour paper to assess candidates' ability to answer legal questions, citing legal basis. It will also assess the ability to draft a legal opinion based upon an enquiry from a client.

## The Pre-Exam Training Program

For the EQE 2020 we offer an integrated training for the Pre-Exam: the comprehensive legal and claim analysis will be combined with full practice of exams, questions and cases:



## The Pre-Exam Integrated training

13 full-day sessions where the legal training will be integrated with the claim analysis training and practicing exams, cases and questions. In this way the candidates experience from the start of the course that the knowledge learned is needed for sitting the Pre-Exam.

The subjects are explained using a comprehensive set of overhead sheets. The students will be provided with handouts of the sheets.

Key subjects will include novelty, inventive step, priority, unity, the main procedures, time limits, fees, remedies, representation, languages, etc. The legal framework encompasses the EPC (including the Guidelines), the PCT, the Paris Convention (PC), and the national law of Contracting States (in as far as is relevant for the EQE). Case Law is limited to only clearly established decisions followed by the EPO, including the most important G decisions.

The claim analysis part builds upon the candidates' theoretical knowledge of novelty, inventive step, amendment etc. It will include basic claiming and amendment practices, as well as elucidation of the problem-solution approach using practical examples. Key subjects will include novelty, inventive step, priority, unity, the main procedures, time limits, fees, remedies, representation, languages, etc. The legal framework encompasses the EPC (including the Guidelines), the PCT, the Paris Convention (PC), and the national law of Contracting States (in as far as is relevant for the EQE). Case Law is limited to only clearly established decisions followed by the EPO, including the most important G decisions.

Approximately 600 questions have been prepared to guide the students through the subjects and test their absorption of the legal subject. Approximately one-third of these questions will be in a multiple-choice format similar to the Pre-Exam. The students have to prepare answers to 250 of these questions as homework, and hand in their answers. The answers and any unclear subjects will be discussed during the next session.

The legal and claim analysis preparation will be concluded with a special exam training day, where the tutor will lead them step-by-step through an exam to improve the efficiency. All documents will be read together and students will give their solutions to parts of the exams.

The sessions are held every 2 weeks up to the end of September 2019 and every 3 weeks from October 2019 to February 2020. This provides ample opportunity for further individual study and for answering the questions.

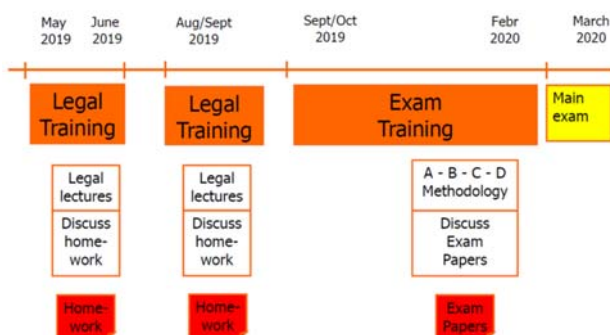
## Summarized program for Pre-Exam 2019:

- 13-day (full-day) Pre-Examination Integrated Training
- Legal lectures will be alternated with practice of:
  - questions
  - cases
  - exams



## The Main Exam Training Program

For those successful in the Pre-Exam, the next step will be the Main Exam training program. The training is divided into two main modules – legal training, and exam-oriented (or methodology) training.



## The Main Exam D Legal training

8 full-day sessions to augment and deepen the knowledge acquired during the Pre-Exam Legal Training to a level required for the C & D parts of the EQE Main Exam.

Legal lectures will cover legal changes in the EPC & PCT since the Pre-Exam, the more advanced legal subjects such as entitlement, enforcement, and petition for review. The Ancillary Regulations will be covered, as well as a specially selected subset of case law.

Candidates are asked to hand-in their solution to a DI paper before the introductory session. This paper will be corrected and marked by the tutor and discussed during the introductory days.

To gain confidence and experience in applying the law, students will have to rehearse the full range of legal subjects guided by a selection of approx. 250 exam-oriented questions. The answers have to be prepared at home and have to be handed in. A selection will be marked individually, and returned with comments and suggestions for improvement. The answers and any unclear subjects will be discussed during the next session.

The sessions are held every 2 weeks.

## The Main Exam Practice Training

It consists of a comprehensive package of three modules. For each of the exam papers A-B, C and D, a module with exam-oriented training and exercises is available.

Please note that starting at the EQE 2017 a single paper A and a single paper B will be examined,

covering both technical fields.

### Paper A/B Exam Practice

At the EQE 2017 brand new Exam papers A and B were introduced. Electricity-Mechanics and Chemistry topics are now combined. Introduction days for Paper A and Paper B will be split into two: 1,5 day for Paper A and 1,5 day for Paper B.

During the 1,5 day methodology session the requirements for Paper A will be detailed and tactics for handling the papers will be given. The tactics will be practiced using cases with topics that will be part of the exam papers.

The paper A sessions will be followed by a 1,5 day Paper B methodology session where the requirements for Paper B will be detailed and tactics for handling the papers will be given. The tactics will be practiced using cases with topics that will be part of the exam papers.

Following the methodology session, the students have to prepare one adapted EQE A and one adapted B paper at home and hand-in their answers. They also have to prepare and hand-in their answers to the EQE 2017, EQE 2018 and EQE 2019 exam papers (for A and B). The answers will be checked and marked by the tutor. During four half-day sessions the papers will be discussed with the group and feedback on the individual work will be given.

### Paper C Exam Practice

During three full-day methodology sessions, the requirements for Paper C will be detailed and tactics for handling the papers will be given. The tactics will be practiced using one EQE C paper and several short cases.

Following the introductory sessions, the students have to prepare four EQE papers C at home and hand in their answers. The answers will be checked and marked by the tutor. During four half-day sessions the papers will be discussed with the group and feedback on the individual work will be given.

After having discussed two exam papers, the students will follow a special exam training, where the tutor will lead them step-by-step through an exam to improve the efficiency. All documents will be read together and students will give their solutions to parts of the exam.

The discussion of the C and D exam papers will be combined on one day.





### Paper D Exam Practice

Having acquired sufficient knowledge in the Pre-Exam and Main Exam Legal Training, this module focuses on using the knowledge in an efficient way in order to pass the exam, dealing with both the legal reasoning (formerly the DI part) and the legal opinion (formerly the DII part) sections. Particular emphasis is given to the legal opinion part of the exam.

During two full-day introductory sessions, a methodology for both the legal reasoning and the legal opinion will be detailed. The tactics will be practiced using two exam papers.

Following the introductory sessions, the students have to prepare four EQE legal reasoning papers and legal opinion papers at home and hand in their answers. The answers will be checked and marked by the tutor. During four half-day sessions the papers will be discussed with the group and feedback on the individual work will be given.

After having discussed two exam papers, the students will follow a special exam training, where the tutor will lead them step-by-step through a legal opinion exam to improve the efficiency. All documents will be read together and students will give their solutions to parts of the exam.

The discussion of the D and C exam papers will be combined on one day.

### Summarized program for Main Exam EQE 2020:

- 8-day D-Legal
- 5-day Main Exam Paper A and B training
  - 1,5 day Methodology session for Paper A
  - 1,5 day Methodology session for Paper B
  - 4 half-day Discussion of homework
- 6-day Main Exam Paper C training:
  - 3 full-day Methodology sessions
  - 4 half-day Discussion of homework
  - 1 full-day Guided Exam session
- 5-day Main Exam Paper D training:
  - 2 full-day Methodology sessions
  - 4 half-day Discussion of homework
  - 1 full-day Guided Exam session





## Timing

Normally full-day means: 9.00/9.30 – 17.00 hours and half-day means 9.00 – 12.30 or 13.30 – 17.00 hours.

Note that for the training, if given at the EPO, full-day means: 13.00 – 20.00 hours, and half day means 16.00 – 20.00 hours.

## Registration and invoicing

The invoice will be send immediately after registration. Please note:

- Up to 2 months before the start of the training course an early-bird-discount will be given.
- From 2 months up to the start of the course, the full price without discount will be charged.

## Fees EQE training

### 1<sup>st</sup> year preparation Pre-Exam:

- Pre-Exam Integrated (13-day), price € 5.780
- Early bird discount: € 160

### 2<sup>nd</sup> year preparation Main Exam:

- D-Legal (8-day), price € 4.760
- Exam Training Paper AB (5-day), price € 4.090
- Exam Training Paper C (6-day), price € 4.200
- Exam Training Paper D (5-day), price € 4.090
- Early bird discount: € 450

### Registration fee

- A registration fee of € 125 is charged for each booking.
- For a company booking of several candidates at the same time, only one registration fee of € 125 will be charged.

## Registration

You may register by using the form in the brochure or online on our website.

Deadline for registration:

- Pre-Exam Training: **31 March 2019**
- Main Exam Training: **15 April 2019**

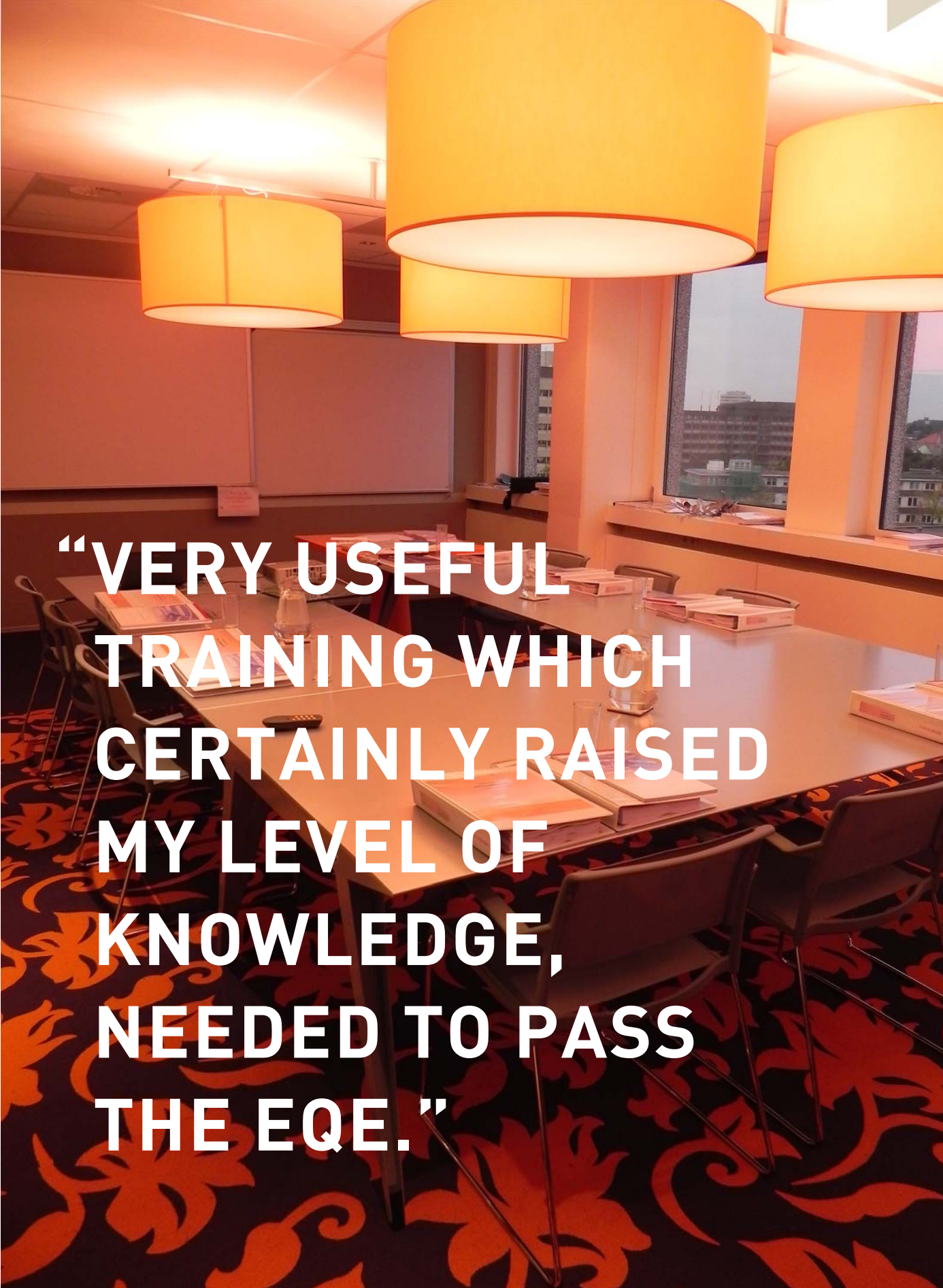
## Cancellation policy

Please check our website ([www.deltapatents.com](http://www.deltapatents.com)) for our cancellation policy.

## Training institute

The course is offered by EIPEF (European Intellectual Property Education Foundation), the former "Stichting Opleiding Europees Octrooigemachtigde". The Foundation decides on the program and price-setting of the courses. DeltaPatents provides the contents of the course, the course material and the organization. Looking at the passing-rates over the last few years shows that the results of the EQE from the Foundation and/or DeltaPatents were among the highest in Europe.





**“VERY USEFUL  
TRAINING WHICH  
CERTAINLY RAISED  
MY LEVEL OF  
KNOWLEDGE,  
NEEDED TO PASS  
THE EQE.”**





## Meet the Tutors



Jelle Hoekstra



Roel van Woudenberg



Diane Tweedlie



Sander van Rijnsouw



Jessica Kroeze



Nico Cordes



Tanja la Cour



Miranda Vossen

## Contact

For more information please visit the DeltaPatents website ([www.deltapatents.com](http://www.deltapatents.com)) or contact Mieke Zonjee at DeltaPatents ([training@deltapatents.com](mailto:training@deltapatents.com)).



# REGISTRATION FORM

You may register by **fax** + 31 40 2366708 **mail** DeltaPatents B.V., Fellenoord 370, 5611 ZL Eindhoven, the Netherlands  
**website** www.deltapatents.com **e-mail** training@deltapatents.com

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name

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company

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address

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billing tel.no.

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e-mail address

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purchase order

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VAT number

A registration fee of € 125 is charged for each booking. If more than one course is booked at the same time, or with a company booking, only one registration fee will be charged. All prices are exclusive of 21% VAT.

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Pre-Exam  13-day Pre-Exam Integrated Exam year:  
Training  NO

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Main Exam  Exam Training Paper A and B Exam year:  
Training  NO  
Paper A and B

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Main Exam  Exam Training Paper C Exam year:  
Training  NO  
Paper C

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Main Exam  D-Legal Exam year:  
Training  Exam Training Paper D  
Paper D  NO

Cancellation policy: please check our [website](#) of our cancellation policy.