



## **CPQ FOUNDATION STAGE REPORT BY THE STAGE CHAIR ON CANDIDATE PERFORMANCE IN JUNE 2025 EXAMINATIONS**

### **Overview**

| <b>Total number of attempts<br/>across all modules</b> | <b>Number of Passes</b> | <b>Overall Pass Rate</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1381                                                   | 1085                    | 79%                      |

The CPQ Foundation Stage examinations are now well established. This session saw a slight decrease in candidate entries compared to the January 25 session. There was a slight fall in the overall pass rate, to 79%.

### **General Comments**

It is encouraging to see that the pass rate remains strong and whilst the pass rate has fallen slightly, it remains broadly consistent with previous sessions. Once again, the vast majority of candidates did well, with a small number scoring outstanding marks. Congratulations are due to everyone who passed. Candidates and training providers are commended for the effort that they have put in to achieve these results.

In Modules F1-F4, Section A questions are multiple-choice knowledge questions. Sections B and C use a variety of question types based on simple scenarios. The scenarios in Section C are longer and more complex than those in Section B. The multiple-choice questions in Section A require simple knowledge recall. The scenarios in Sections B and C require application of this knowledge to the scenarios.

The assessments in the Professional Skills Modules F5 and F6 are structured differently. Section A consists of short multiple-choice and other questions based mainly on knowledge. Section B requires candidates to answer questions and create reports based on a longer practice-based scenario. In Module F5 (Succeeding in the Legal Environment) candidates write these reports longhand; in Module F6 (Legal Research) they compile their reports by selecting a series of passages from multiple-choice options.

The F7-F9 examinations are structured differently from Modules F1-F4. The examinations for F7 and F8, consist of Section A, which has 30 knowledge-based multiple-choice questions, and Section B, which is an examiner-marked task-based written assessment testing practitioner skills. F9 (Introduction to Property, Private Client and Professional Skills) is different again: candidates take the complete F4 exam, with the addition of accounting and technology questions.

All questions are marked electronically, except for the longhand reports in Section B of F5, F7 and F8.

Multiple-choice questions require careful reading. Each option has been phrased deliberately and carefully, and the reason why one option is wrong, and another right, may lie in the detail of the wording. Candidates need to take extra care to consider the question that is being asked and read through all the options before making their choice. They should not select their first choice without revisiting all the other options.

Candidates also need to take care to allow sufficient time to answer every question properly across all the sections of the paper.

Once again, candidates should feel very positive about their performance in this session, and the foundation that it gives them for their further studies.

## **Grade boundaries**

CILEX takes every precaution to ensure that the CPQ examinations are fair, accurate and set at the right level. Prior to releasing results, CILEX scrutinises the performance of each examination question to identify and address any issues. The notional pass boundary for all Foundation modules is set at 60%. Remedial action is taken to address any performance issues, to ensure that the results issued to students are fair. Remedial action may include, but is not limited to, adjusting the grade boundaries.

## **Modules F1-F4**

Having previously increased at every session since the launch of the qualification, candidate numbers have now remained broadly stable. Pass rates were also largely in line with June 2024, ranging from 71% to 82%. In all four modules, there were candidates who achieved an outstanding mark of 90% or more.

CILEX has provided data on the ten questions in each of Modules F1-F4 that caused the greatest difficulty for candidates who did not pass. This information is included in Appendices 1-4 below. It is hoped that candidates and training providers will find this helpful.

## **Professional Skills: Modules F5 and F6**

Candidate numbers for Modules F5 (Succeeding in the Legal Environment) and Module F6 (Legal Research) remained roughly in line with those in June 2024. As before, the pass rates for both modules were strong.

## **Modules F7-F9**

Candidate numbers for most of the examinations in Modules F7-F9 have increased since June 2024 but remain low overall, making it difficult to draw meaningful detailed conclusions from the results. However, performance was strong, with pass rates ranging from 73% to 99%.

**APPENDIX 1**  
**TEN QUESTIONS WHICH CAUSED FAIL CANDIDATES MOST DIFFICULTY:**  
**MODULE F1 (LEGAL SYSTEMS)**

| <b>Topic</b>                                                | <b>Module specification reference</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Types of alternative dispute resolution                     | 2e                                    |
| Role of the executive                                       | 4a / 6a                               |
| Effect of the Human Rights Act 1998                         | 4b / 9a / 9b                          |
| Nature of delegated legislation                             | 5c                                    |
| Exercise of royal prerogative powers (2 questions)          | 6b                                    |
| <i>Stare decisis</i> and judicial precedent (2 questions)   | 7b                                    |
| Remedies in judicial review                                 | 8c                                    |
| Rights protected by the European Convention on Human Rights | 9c                                    |

**APPENDIX 2**  
**TEN QUESTIONS WHICH CAUSED FAIL CANDIDATES MOST DIFFICULTY:**  
**MODULE F2 (TORT)**

| <b>Topic</b>                                             | <b>Module specification reference</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Occupiers' liability for work of independent contractors | 4b                                    |
| Requirements for trespass to land                        | 6a                                    |
| Unintentional trespass to land                           | 6a                                    |
| Requirements for private nuisance (2 questions)          | 6b                                    |
| Private nuisance created by non-occupiers                | 6b                                    |
| Remedies for private nuisance                            | 6b                                    |
| <i>Volenti non fit injuria</i>                           | 7a                                    |
| Defences in tort                                         | 7b                                    |
| Chain of causation                                       | 8a                                    |

**APPENDIX 3**  
**TEN QUESTIONS WHICH CAUSED FAIL CANDIDATES MOST DIFFICULTY:**  
**MODULE F3 (CONTRACT)**

| <b>Topic</b>                                  | <b>Module specification reference</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Communication of acceptance                   | 2b                                    |
| Executed and executory consideration          | 3a                                    |
| Sufficiency of consideration                  | 3a                                    |
| Performance of existing duty as consideration | 3a                                    |
| Consideration and promissory estoppel         | 3a                                    |
| Intention to create legal relations           | 4                                     |
| Negligent misrepresentation                   | 6b                                    |
| Aim of damages in contract                    | 8b                                    |
| Types of recoverable loss                     | 8b                                    |
| Assessment of damages                         | 8b                                    |

**APPENDIX 4**  
**TEN QUESTIONS WHICH CAUSED FAIL CANDIDATES MOST DIFFICULTY:**  
**MODULE F4 (INTRODUCTION TO PROPERTY AND PRIVATE CLIENT)**

| <b>Topic</b>                                                | <b>Module specification reference</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Nature of equitable interests in land                       | 2b                                    |
| Mortgage as trigger for compulsory first registration       | 2f                                    |
| Nature of legal easement                                    | 2f                                    |
| Vesting of assets in beneficiaries under a will             | 3d                                    |
| Characteristics of joint tenancy of land                    | 6c                                    |
| Responsibility for checking IHT liability                   | 6e                                    |
| Representation where will invalid                           | 7b                                    |
| Purpose of physical inspection of residential property      | 12a                                   |
| Date and time of completion                                 | 16a                                   |
| Documents for registration of transfer to joint proprietors | 17b                                   |