

OVERALL EXAM – Taxation Elective

Assessment format (as recommended in the Assessment Report):		
Objective-Format Portion	Case-Based Portion	Other Information
<p>Allowed: 0-25% of the exam</p> <p>Testing only competencies within the Tax Elective</p> <p>Up to 30 questions</p>	<p>Allowed: 75% to 100% of the exam</p> <p>Maximum time for any one case is 120 minutes. Cases will have a strong tax focus, but will integrate one or two other competency areas.</p>	<p>The exam is designed to be completed by an average candidate in three (3) hours; however, candidates will be allowed four (4) hours to write. Time estimates for the questions are based on a three-hour examination. Candidates are responsible for managing the time allocation between the objective-format portion and the case portion as it will not be controlled as part of the examination.</p>
<p>In effect: Candidates can expect to see approximately 15 objective-format questions, based on the time estimated for the two cases.</p>	<p>In effect: Candidates can expect two cases for a total of 150 minutes, where the maximum time for any one case will not exceed 90 minutes and the minimum will not go below 60 minutes. Candidates will be advised if and when the cases begin to exceed 90 minutes.</p>	

FOR THE OBJECTIVE-FORMAT PORTION:

TAXATION ELECTIVE COMPETENCY AREA WEIGHTINGS	
CPA Competency	Range
6. TAXATION	100%
<p>The objective format questions will target the competencies where there is an increase in expectation, e.g., B to A. Candidates will have access to restricted resource material, i.e., CPA Handbooks and the Income Tax Act, tax shield formula and other relevant tax information. The standards and regulations that are testable are those in effect (i.e., substantially enacted) as of December 31 of the prior year. Note that the cut off for inclusion in SecurExam is November 30th, therefore any new Handbook releases and tax legislation introduced between Dec 1 and Dec 31 are not testable.</p>	

FOR THE CASE PORTION:

TAXATION ELECTIVE CASES
<p>Cases will assess competencies mainly in Taxation (i.e. a minimum of 50% of competency assessments will be on the Taxation Elective competencies), but will integrate one or two other competency areas. Although the cases will focus on the Taxation Elective, all prior learnings are also testable, i.e. Entry column, Cores 1 and 2. Candidates will have access to restricted resource material, i.e., CPA Handbooks and the Income Tax Act, tax shield formula and other relevant tax information as outlined above.</p>

ENABLING SKILLS
<p>Enabling skills are assessed through both the cases and the objective-format questions.</p>

Important: Refer to the [Technical Update for 2018 Examinations](#) to learn about the technical updates that affect the examinable material for CPA PEP examinations.