



EDUCATORS' BRIEFING 2019/2020

PROFESSIONAL - 1 AUDITING

Comments on Performance in 2019 Examinations

This was the second year incorporating the multiple choice question (MCQ) format for Question 3 and the two opening questions worth 30 marks each. Successful candidates were able to demonstrate their wide understanding of the auditing syllabus. The papers were well received and candidate's answers were of good quality with regards to content and presentation.

Both pass rates in April and August compared very favourably with previous years (April – 73%, August – 72%). Both Examiner and Moderator were pleased with the performance at both diets and felt candidates coped well with the new format. Questions 1 and 2 were well answered for both April and August sittings. Question 3 (Multiple Choice) were also well answered at both sittings also with good candidates performing very well. In April, however, Questions 4 and 5 were poorly answered by some candidates who failed to demonstrate a depth of knowledge of Corporate Governance and could struggle at Professional 2.

Learning Outcomes:

Details of the learning outcomes applicable to this examination are provided on page 58 of the 2020 Syllabus which can be found on our website www.cpaireland.ie

Syllabus Changes:

There have been no changes to the syllabus for 2019/20. The overall design and standard of the paper will not change. Details of the Examinable Material applicable to this examination are provided on pages 92-99 of the 2019 Syllabus. It is important to note the 'issued/revised' date provided for each standard in the Examinable Material Document, as it is the 'current' version of the standard that is examinable in 2019.

Format of the Examination Papers for 2020:

The format is unchanged from the 2019 sittings.

Time allowed: The exam will still be 3 hours in length, plus 10 minutes reading time. Number of questions: There will be no change, i.e., the paper will consist of five questions, three compulsory questions and any one of two optional questions. Questions are marked as follows:

Section A (Three compulsory questions)

Question 1: Compulsory 30 Marks

Question 2: Compulsory 30 Marks

Question 3: Compulsory (MCQ) 20 Marks

Section B (Only **one from two** optional questions)

Question 4: Optional 20 Marks

Question 5: Optional 20 Marks

The papers for 2020 will attempt to cover a broad area of the syllabus over the course of both examinations. However, more than one topic may be examined from one section of the syllabus.