

CQI and IRCA Online Exams: IT Equipment and Systems Requirements

Equipment and System Requirements

To take a CQI and IRCA online exam you will need:

1. A computer or laptop with a working webcam and microphone (**Please note, smart phones, iPads/tablets, touchscreens, and 2-in-1/hybrid laptops with front and rear cameras are not permitted**).
 - You may use a second screen if you need to access a digital version of the standards and/or your course notes
 - If using a laptop, we recommend you connect to an external monitor to optimise your online exam experience
2. A system that meets the following minimum requirements:

	Minimum Windows operating requirements	Minimum Mac operating system
Hardware		
Available free disk space	15 GB	15 GB
Display resolution	Best view in 1280 x 1024	Best view in 1280 x 1024
Network adapter	1 Gbps Network Interface Card	1 Gbps Network Interface Card
Software		
Operating system	Windows 8.1 or above (excluding Windows 10S)	Catalina (10.15.5 to 10.15.7) Mojave (10.14 to 10.14.6) Sierra (10.12 to 10.12.6) Big Sur (11.0 only)
Browsers	Chrome version 85+. Firefox version 85+ and Microsoft Edge version 91+ are permitted but Chrome is the preferred browser	Chrome version 85+

3. **Continuous, stable internet connection.** Cellular connection and/or VPN are not suitable due to their unreliability and unstable nature. A wired connection is ideal, but a strong and stable Wi-Fi connection should be sufficient.
4. To enable video proctoring, the following bandwidth is required:

Camera resolution	Bandwidth required
1 megapixel (1280*720)	5-7 megabits per second (Mbps)
2 megapixel (1920*1080)	7-10 Mbps
4 megapixel (2560*1440)	10-12 Mbps

NB: the bandwidth requirement for HD cameras increases between 10-12 Mbps.

The landing pages for the practice and exam portals contain the following tools:

- System Check Tool
- Test Your Camera
- Test Your Microphone

The System Check Tool also has a link to an Audio and Video Streaming test. We strongly recommend that you use these tools to check that your laptop or computer meets the minimum requirements, and your webcam and microphone are working correctly.

<https://practice.quality.org/TNA/PracticePortal>

<https://assessment.quality.org/TNA/TestPlayer/Login/Login.aspx>

Please test the device that you are going to use for your exam. Do not assume, for example, that if your work laptop meets the IT requirements, then your personal laptop will too.

It's a good idea to run the system test at about the same time of day you expect to take your exam to get a better feel for the internet connectivity you are likely to have. If you run the system test at 10:00 pm and take your exam at 2:00 pm, the bandwidth available may be quite different.