

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING COMPUTER BASED EXAMINATION (CBE)

The Institute introduced Computer Based Examination (CBE) in place of OMR Based Examination for its Foundation Programme students from June, 2014 session of examination onwards. Consequently, the next Computer Based Examination for CS Foundation Programme will be held on 29th and 30th December, 2018. The Institute has prepared some FAQs given herein below to familiarise, guide and sensitise the students about CBE.

Q.1: What is Computer Based Examination (CBE)?

A: In CBE, a candidate appears for the examination, which is conducted entirely through computer thus replacing use of paper and pen in the examination.

Q.2: Is computer knowledge required to appear in Computer Based Examination?

A: No. The computer interface is easy to use and requires no previous knowledge of computer. Candidates would be required to sit before a computer terminal and use computer-mouse while attempting the questions. Therefore the candidates, at the most, need to know only how to use computer-mouse in CBE.

Q.3: Is Computer Based Examination conducted using Internet?

A: No. CBE is conducted using secured Local Area Network (LAN).

Q.4: In case of any problem in computer or Local Area Network (LAN), who will assist the candidates?

A: IT professional(s) will remain present to assist the candidates in case of any eventuality.

Q.5: Where will the Computer Based Examination be held?

A: CBE would be held in all those cities in India and abroad where the Institute's existing examinations are held and it shall be conducted at specified examination centres/venues. The list of examination centres is available on the Institute's website:

https://www.icsi.edu/media/webmodules/REGIONWISE_LIST_EXAMCENTRES_DEC2018.pdf. However, the address of examination centre/venue would be provided on the Candidates' Admit Card.

Q.6: What are the dates for conduct of CBE in December, 2018 and maximum time allowed for each subject of examination?

A: CBE will be held in two days *i.e.* on 29th & 30th December, 2018, as per the schedule provided in the Time-Table hosted on the website. On each day, composite time of 90 minutes shall be provided to each candidate for both the papers (45 minutes in case of exemption in one paper. After the expiry of 90 minutes, the candidates will not be able to attempt any question or check the answer. The answers of candidates would be saved automatically by the computer system, even if the candidate has not clicked the "Finish" Button.

Q.7: How many questions would be there in each subject of Computer Based Examination?

A: There would be 50 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) of two marks each in every subject of CBE. On day one, candidates would be examined in Paper-1 and Paper-2, carrying 100 MCQs in all, which would be required to be attempted in 90 minutes session of examination. Similar pattern would be followed on day two for Paper-3 and Paper-4, as per the schedule of examination given above.

Q.8: How to answer a question in Computer Based Examination?

A: The Questions may be answered in any order within the stipulated examination time. Each question shall be followed by four alternative answers marked as A, B, C and D. In order to answer a question, the candidate would “click” the option/answer which he/she thinks, as the most appropriate/correct. The option, so clicked will be highlighted, automatically saved and treated as “answer” given by the candidate.

Q. 9: When should a candidate report at the examination centre?

A: One hour before the scheduled time of start of examination.

Q.10: Can a candidate take the examination from home?

A: No. The CBE is to be taken in a secure testing environment at the specified examination centre. The presence of an authorized proctor is necessary to launch and monitor the examination process.

Q.11: Is there any negative marking for the wrong answer?

A: No. There is no negative marking for the wrong answer.

Q. 12: Can a candidate skip any question and return to the same later on?

A: A candidate can answer the question in any order he/she likes to attempt. In case a candidate does not wish to answer any question, he/she should not “click” answer for that question and instead “click” next question.

Q.13: Can a candidate review his/her answer?

A: Yes. A candidate has the option to “bookmark” any question to review at a later stage before clicking the “Finish” button.

Q.14: Can a candidate change his/her answer to any question?

A: Yes. A candidate can make changes in his/her answer(s) already chosen, by simply clicking the other alternate answer of his/her choice at any time before conclusion of examination or before clicking “Finish” button.

Q.15: How to enroll for Computer Based Examination, what is the examination fee and last date for enrolment for appearing in December, 2018 examination?

A: Candidates can apply for the examination from 26th August, 2018 through Institute’s on-line portal <https://smash.icsi.in> after logging into their respective accounts and by submitting the examination form along with the examination fee of Rs.1200/- through credit card/debit card/net-banking/Canara Bank challan system. A separate link for enrolment would be provided on the Institute’s website.

Last date for enrolment for appearing in December, 2018 examination is 25th

September, 2018. However, a candidate may enrol himself/herself online up to 10th October, 2018 by paying late fee of Rs. 250/- over and above the examination fee of Rs. 1200/-.

Q.16: Will the candidates be allowed to Change the Examination Centre after submission of examination form and payment of examination fee?

A: Candidates may submit their online requests for change of Examination Centre upto 5th December, 2018 along with payment of Rs. 250/- for such change. After the said date, students will not be allowed to change the examination centre.

Q.17: When can candidates download the Admit Card for the examinations?

A: The Admit Card can be downloaded 10 days prior to the date of commencement of examination from the Institute's online portal <https://smash.icsi.in>.

Q.18: What will be the medium of questions for Computer Based Examination?

A: Questions will be provided both in English and Hindi language except for 'Business Management, Ethics and Entrepreneurship' subject, for which questions shall be provided in English language only.

Q.19: Can a candidate get examination centre of his/her choice?

A: A candidate can opt for city of his/her choice as per the list of examination centres at the time of enrolling for the examination. However, allocation of specific examination venue and timings shall be at the sole discretion of the Institute and no request for change in this respect will be entertained.

Q.20: Will a candidate be getting some practice test before actually appearing in Computer Based Examination?

A: Mock Tests have been made available on the ICSI website for familiarizing the students with CBE. A candidate can practice as many times as he/she wants. This will allow the candidates to get acquainted with the format of Computer Based Examination in simulation environment.

Q.21: What will happen in case there is some problem in computer during the examination?

A: Additional computers will be available at the examination centres to take care of such problems. System will record every 'click' by a candidate and time remaining for the exam through countdown clock. In case of any problem, candidate can resume his/her exam at another computer exactly from the point where he/she last proceeded. Thus, there would no loss of time in case of any technical problem.

Q.22: What items a candidate is required to bring compulsorily at the examination centre?

A: Candidates are required to bring their *Admit Card, Student Identity Card* (bearing photograph and signature of the candidate) *issued by the ICSI duly attested*, failing which they will not be allowed to enter the Examination Centre. If due to any reason, any of the candidates is not holding the Student Identity card, he/she must bring any other photo identity card issued by the Government Departments. *viz. Passport, Driving License, PAN Card, UID Adhaar Card, Voter*

Card, etc. to establish his/her identity. However, carrying of Admit Card is compulsory.

Q.23: Is calculator allowed in Computer Based Examination?

A: Candidates are allowed to use their own battery operated, noiseless calculator with not more than six functions, 12 digits and 2 memories in the examination centre. However use of scientific calculators is not allowed.

Q: 24: What items are banned in the examination Hall/Room?

A: Mobile phones, I-Pads, palmtop, smart watch, health band, tab, pager as well as any other kind of communication equipments capable of being used as communication device, programmable, scientific or printing model of calculators, books, printed or handwritten material, etc. are banned inside the examination Hall/Room.

Q.25: Can a candidate get paper/sheets for rough work?

A: Yes, a blank sheet, if required will be provided at the exam centre for rough work during the exam. The same must be returned to the Test Administrator before leaving the examination room. However, students are required to bring their own blue/black ball point pen.

Q.26: How will a candidate come to know which of the questions are left unanswered?

A: A candidate can navigate between questions either by clicking on “Previous” or “Next” or by directly clicking on the question, which are displayed as attempted/un-attempted/bookmarked for review in the paper wise summary panel. There will be a panel on computer screen showing all the question nos. in different colour scheme, that will indicate which are the questions answered, left unanswered and bookmarked for review.

Q.27: Will there be Help Desk to support the candidates?

A: Yes, there would be a Help Desk to resolve the queries of candidates appearing in CBE. Help Line Nos./e-mail id would be made available on the Institute’s website.

Q.28: What would happen if a candidate bookmarks a question but forgets to review later, and exam expires?

A: “Bookmark” is meant for reminding a candidate to review his/her answer at any time during the examination but before clicking the “Finish” button. However, if a candidate skips to review his/her “Bookmark” question later on, the option to the question clicked by the candidate earlier would be saved automatically and taken as final answer.

Q.29: Are candidates with disabilities accommodated in the examination centre?

A: Yes, candidates with disabilities are provided extra time/scribe/special seating arrangements/accommodation. However, such candidates are required to apply in advance to the Institute for grant of concession in this regard as per the “*Guidelines for Physically Challenged Candidates to Avail Facility of Scribe/Extra-time*” hosted on the Institute’s website.

Q.30: How would a candidate submit the examination if he/she has completed answering all the questions?

A: After completion of the examination, candidates can click “DONE” button. The “DONE” button will be followed by three warnings with “FINISH” button to submit the examination. The “DONE” button would be visible at the Right Hand Bottom Corner of the Exam Window and the same would be enabled after 45 minutes of commencement of the Examination.

Q.31: Can a candidate, after the examination, submit his/her feedback at the examination centre?

A: Yes. A candidate may offer his/her comments about the exam centre or the conditions in which the examination was conducted by filling feedback form available on his/her system after conclusion of examination.

Q.32: Should a candidate click the “Done” button after completing each paper?

A: No. “DONE” button shall be clicked by the candidates only when they have completed answering all the questions and wish to submit/ finish their examination.

Q.33: When is a candidate permitted to leave the Examination Hall/Room/Lab?

A: A candidate shall be permitted to leave the examination hall/room/lab only after 45 minutes of the commencement of the examination.

Q.34: What would happen if a candidate wrongly clicks the “DONE” button?

A: In case any candidate wrongly clicks the “DONE” button, warning screens would be displayed; and he/she can return to the question paper by clicking “Go to Examination”. There are three such warnings – WARNING-1, WARNING-2 and WARNING-3 with “FINISH” button. On clicking the “FINISH” button after “Final Warning”, examination would be completed and submitted. After submission of examination, it will not re-start at all and answers marked by the candidate would be considered for purposes of result.

Q.35: When the results of CBE will be announced?

A: The date of declaration of result of CBE would be announced on the website of the Institute www.icsi.edu.
