

The examination consists of four papers:

- a. **Paper A** tests the candidate's ability to: (1) understand a client's disclosure, (2) analyze prior art relevant to the invention, (3) identify the point(s) of invention of the client's disclosure, and (4) prepare a patent application based on and reflects the analysis and conclusions made in items (1) to (3) and is focused on a point of invention both disclosed by the client and patentable over the prior art;
- b. **Paper B** tests the candidate's basic legal, analytical and knowledge competencies to deal with validity issues respecting issued Canadian patents;
- c. **Paper C** tests the candidate's basic legal, analytical and knowledge competencies to maintain and prosecute a patent application in Canada, with primary emphasis on Patent Office practice and responding to examiners' reports via formal correspondence with the Office (using appropriate form and content).
- d. **Paper D** tests the candidate's basic legal, analytical and knowledge competencies to deal with claim infringement issues respecting issued Canadian patents.

Each examination paper may, besides the foregoing, include questions directed to basic skills of patent agency, important principles of patent law and practice, and practical problems encountered in practice, such as:

1. reissuance and re-examination of a patent;
2. unity of invention and divisional practice;
3. final actions and review of rejected applications by the Commissioner;
4. issues relating to requisitions and time limits;
5. administrative procedures such as maintenance fees and national entry;
6. ownership issues such as assignments, legal title and inventorship;
7. deemed abandonment and reinstatement;
8. the Patent Cooperation Treaty;
9. international applications and international search and examination;
10. foreign practice as it relates to advising a client about a Canadian application;
11. complementary protection such as copyrights and industrial designs;
12. general questions about the state of Canadian law and jurisprudence.

Papers B, C and D of the examination are presented in two parts: part A, which consists of "long answer questions" generally worth 70-80 marks and part B which consists of "short answer questions" generally worth 30-20 marks. Paper A may consist solely of long answer questions.

Candidates are encouraged to consult the specific writing guides for each paper, available on the [College's website](#).