

Phase 1 – Exam Instructions

2026 International Competition on the IFPP

September 22, 2026.

Preamble

1. This communication provides important information about the Phase 1 Exam.
2. We have 475 Participants from 75 Supreme Audit Institutions from seven INTOSAI Regional Organizations in the competitive track. In addition, we have 56 Participants competing in the Parallel Participation Track, under clauses 3.3 and 5.3 of the Rules of the competition.
3. The Exam shall be conducted on the <https://exam.net/> platform. Each Participant must access the Exam using the **Student Exam Key**, which is a common code (same for everybody) that identifies the Exam. Then, each Participant must fill in the e-mail address and the **Participant's Unique Key**. The Student Exam Key and the Participant's Unique Key will be sent individually via e-mail by September 25.
4. Your e-mail address and your Participant's Unique Key must match exactly with the e-mail address registered and with the Participant's Unique Key received by e-mail. The e-mail address is validated by the platform to allow the exam to begin. The key is not validated automatically by the platform when you enter it. It is checked afterward by the Coordination Group. An incorrectly entered key may result in your exam not being considered in the final scoring.
5. If you do not receive by September 25 the e-mail with the Student Exam Key and your Participant's Unique Key, please contact psc@tcu.gov.br immediately.
6. The final list of participants, including each e-mail and unique key, will be loaded onto the system by September 30. After this date, no adjustments will be allowed.
7. For the exam's scope, content, format, and general rules of conduct, please refer to the Official Rules of the Competition and the Practical Information for Participants, both available on the competition website (<https://psc-intosai.org/2026-international-competition-on-ifpp/>).

Phase 1 Exam on October 7

8. The Phase 1 examination shall consist of 30 multiple-choice questions. Each question will have 5 options with only one correct answer. Each correct answer will award one point. The Phase 1 examination will have a maximum duration of 50 minutes. It will be conducted exclusively in English.

9. The Phase 1 exam window will remain open for 24 hours to accommodate all time zones, from **October 7, 2026, 14:00 UTC** until **October 8, 2026, 13:59 UTC**. Participants may choose to start the exam at the preferred time, provided they finish before the closing of the window.
10. Each participant is allowed only one attempt (Article 7.6 of the Official Rules): the first attempt you initiate is the one that counts.
11. Once the participant has started the examination, the timer will run continuously and cannot be paused or restarted. Participants are advised to take the exam in a quiet place and with a stable internet connection.
12. No real-time technical support will be provided during the exam. The teacher chat feature will not be available.
13. Self-resume is not available on this platform. This is a technical limitation of Exam.net and applies to every participant equally. If you lose access to the exam for any reason, including a temporary loss of internet connection, you will probably not be able to resume it. Whatever you had completed at that point will be considered your final submission for Phase 1.
14. The competition is a "closed-book" examination. No consultation of external websites, files, or physical materials is allowed. Any breach of integrity or attempt to circumvent platform security will result in disqualification.
15. The Phase 1 exam will run using Exam.net's screen monitoring feature. By proceeding, you give explicit permission for your screen to be recorded for the entire duration of the exam. It does not allow the use of multiple monitors.
16. After beginning the exam, participants are not allowed to change windows. If it happens, the platform will block access and will require a written explanation to unblock. To avoid wasting time, we recommend that participants close all windows before starting the exam.

Practice Exam

17. From September 28, 2026, 14:00 UTC, until October 2, 2026, 14:00 UTC, there will be a Practice Exam on <https://exam.net/>. It will consist of a 5 multiple-choice question exam to simulate the real exam. The objective is that Participants can familiarize themselves with the platform.
18. The Participants that want to train for the real session must access the Practice Exam using the e-mail address registered and using the following Student Exam Key: **QF1PTp**.
19. Each participant will be allowed only one training session due to operational limitations. The features and functionalities available in the practice exam will be very similar to those that will be available in the real exam, so take time to explore the platform and its features.

20. We recommend taking the Practice Exam on the same equipment that will be used for the actual exam.

Results

21. Each participant will be able to check their score at the end of the examination.
22. Participants may file a reasoned appeal regarding questions, scoring or any other issue. Appeals must be submitted by **October 9, 2026, 23:59 UTC**.
23. Appeals must be sent to psc@tcu.gov.br, in copy to eca-psc@eca.europa.eu.
24. Further information about Phase 2 will be provided in due course.