

## Partial Assessment Programme FAQs

1. Does the launch of the Partial Assessment Programme mean the end of the certificate extension scheme?

Yes. After March 31<sup>st</sup>, the current certificate extension scheme will no longer be available.

However, a short 'one-off' time limited extension will be provided to allow practitioners enough time to complete recertification. The CompEx Certification Body reserves the right to refuse an extension request if the conditions as described in **question 20** are not met or insufficient evidence is provided.

2. I am an international candidate and continued travel restrictions prevent me from attending a CompEx training centre to complete a recertification course. What should I do?

We recognise that although some regions are seeing improvements, the global situation is different for each area and country. Local lockdowns and travel restrictions may make it difficult for some practitioners to access training centres. With this in mind, CompEx is launching a new **Partial Assessment Programme** to support training centres and practitioners requiring recertification during this difficult time.

The Partial Assessment Programme is an interim measure to enable certified practitioners unable to attend a CompEx training centre for recertification, due to Covid-19, to apply for a **Statement of Partial Assessment (SoPA)**. Only approved applicants that pass the Partial Assessment Programme exam, and who have a valid CompEx certificate or certificate extension will be eligible to apply for a SoPA.

3. What is the Partial Assessment Programme?

The Partial Assessment Programme is a temporary measure, developed due to the on-going pandemic, which enables certified practitioners unable to attend a CompEx training centre due to Covid-19, to apply for a **Statement of Partial Assessment**. The Partial Assessment Programme applies to the full CompEx course (Ex01 – Ex04) and the shorter Refresher (Ex01R – Ex04R) course only.

4. Who can apply for the Partial Assessment Programme?

CompEx certificate holders with a current CompEx certificate or a valid certificate extension can apply for the Partial Assessment Programme. Only approved applicants that pass the Partial Assessment Programme exam, and who have a valid CompEx certificate or certificate extension will be awarded a SoPA.

5. What qualifications does the Partial Assessment Programme cover?

The Partial Assessment Programme applies to the full CompEx course (Ex01 – Ex04) and the shorter Refresher (Ex01R – Ex04R) course only. For information regarding other available CompEx qualifications please visit our website [www.compex.org.uk/qualifications](http://www.compex.org.uk/qualifications)

**6. Does the Statement of Partial Assessment (SoPA) replace my CompEx certification?**

No, the SoPA has been introduced as a temporary measure due to the on-going pandemic. We recognise that travel restrictions and Covid-19 related issues could prevent a certificate holder from attending a CompEx training centre, stopping them from completing a full competency validation assessment.

**7. What is the purpose of the Statement of Partial Assessment (SoPA)?**

The purpose of the SoPA is to provide an employer with some assurance that an individual has maintained a level of core knowledge associated with safe working in explosive atmospheres.

**8. What do I need to do to receive a Statement of Partial Assessment?**

To receive a Statement of Partial Assessment, approved applicants for the Partial Assessment Programme must pass a timed, multiple-choice exam to demonstrate their knowledge of safe working in explosive atmospheres. The short, open book online exam is invigilated remotely by your chosen training centre and consists of 32 questions answered over 50 minutes.

**9. How long is the Partial Assessment Programme exam?**

The Partial Assessment Programme exam is a multiple-choice, open book exam consisting of 32 questions answered over 50 minutes. Candidates are welcome to use their own copy of the toolbox guide in the exam if needed. If you do not have a copy of the toolbox guide, please contact your preferred training centre who can issue replacement toolbox guides for a small fee.

**10. How is the exam invigilated?**

The Partial Assessment Programme exam is invigilated remotely via a communication platform such as Microsoft Teams or Zoom which can run alongside the web-based exam. The exam **does not** require dedicated software as candidates receive a weblink and exam keycode by email from their training centre to undertake the exam.

**11. How do I apply for the Partial Assessment Programme?**

You can apply for the Partial Assessment Programme through your preferred CompEx training centre by completing the Partial Assessment Programme application form (**JTL904 SoPA**). Applicants are notified of the application outcome by the training centre.

If an application is approved, the training centre will arrange for you to undertake the Partial Assessment Programme exam.

The timed, multiple-choice exam is subject to remote invigilation by your preferred CompEx training centre. Failure to follow strict exam invigilation protocols could result in cancellation of your exam and your application being rejected.

**12. How long do I have to complete my Partial Assessment Programme exam if my application is accepted?**

The Partial Assessment Programme online exam consists of 32 questions answered over 50 minutes. The exam must be completed within four weeks of an application being approved.

**13. What happens if I fail the Partial Assessment Programme exam?**

You are entitled to undertake up to two resit attempts. All exam resits must be completed within three months of your initial assessment. Failure of both resits requires you to undertake a full CompEx course (Ex01 – Ex04).

**14. What happens if I lose internet connectivity during the Partial Assessment Programme exam?**

If the internet connection is lost during the exam, you will be required to repeat the full exam. It is your responsibility to ensure that sufficient internet connection is maintained throughout the exam and subsequent upload. The web-based version **does not** retain assessment data should the internet connection become disconnected.

**15. What feedback do I receive for the exam?**

The outcome of all Partial Assessment Programme exams will be a Pass or Fail statement. You will be notified by your preferred training centre of your result. All exam results are definite and final, which means a diagnostic breakdown of **any** results **will not** be provided, and appeals **will not** be considered.

**16. How long does my Statement of Partial Assessment last?**

The Statement of Partial Assessment (SoPA) is valid for **twelve months** from the date of the exam. The date is clearly recorded on the SoPA and a record of this is held by the CompEx Certification Body.

**17. What happens when my Statement of Partial Assessment expires?**

Certificate holders with a valid SoPA **must** have a confirmed recertification course booked before the expiration of the Statement of Partial Assessment. The Statement of Partial Assessment

(SoPA) is valid for **twelve months** from the date of the exam. **Extensions will not be granted for late bookings.**

**18. Is there a cost associated with the Partial Assessment Programme?**

Yes, costs may vary and are dependent on the training centre. Please contact your preferred training centre for accurate, up-to-date pricing. To find a local training provider, please visit the [Find a centre](#) page on our website.

**19. I have attempted to book a course for recertification, but my preferred CompEx centre cannot provide me with a booking before my expiry date. What shall I do?**

A short '**one-off**' time limited extension will be provided to allow the practitioner enough time to complete recertification. The CompEx Certification Body reserves the right to refuse an extension request if the conditions described in question 19 are not met or insufficient evidence is provided.

CompEx recognises that the global situation remains dynamic and therefore deadlines will be kept under review. However, from the **30th June 2021**, CompEx will re-evaluate the current situation and the recertification process.

The UK and international situation is constantly changing, meaning your preferred centre may now be open. To ensure appropriate safety measures and social distancing procedures are maintained, CompEx training centres have implemented stringent processes in line with local government guidance and industry best practice.

**The previous CompEx certificate extension scheme ended on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. Therefore, a certificate extension will only be considered and granted in exceptional circumstances.**

**20. How do I qualify for exceptional circumstances?**

The previous CompEx certificate extension scheme ended on **31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**. Therefore, a certificate extension will only be considered and granted in exceptional circumstances and you **must** be able to demonstrate that you are unable to complete recertification before your certificate expiration date. An extension may only be considered if:

1. Your preferred training centre or a training centre within a reasonable travel distance is unable to accommodate a course booking before your certificate expiry date. You must provide documented evidence of a confirmed course booking at the earliest opportunity made available by the training centre.
2. You are shielding or you're in quarantine preventing attendance at a CompEx centre. You must provide documented evidence to support this and confirmation of a course booking at the earliest opportunity.

3. A CompEx training centre, which you are due to attend, has closed or has cancelled courses due to Covid-19. You must provide documented evidence of course cancellations and confirmation of a subsequent booking must be provided.

**21. If I am awarded a Statement of Partial Assessment (SoPA) or I meet the requirements for “exceptional circumstances”, what happens when I can complete my full recertification through a CompEx Refresher or full CompEx course?**

Regardless of circumstance and route chosen for recertification, upon successful completion of your assessments your certification will be **backdated** to your **original** certification date.

**22. When will the Partial Assessment Programme end?**

Given current uncertainty relating to international travel restrictions and local lockdowns, the Partial Assessment Programme will be reviewed in September 2021. Further advice and guidance will be issued at this point.