

Technology Requirements for Gatehouse Awards Online Examinations

All GA Online Exams require access to the Internet and you will need to have access to your own computer and a high-speed Internet Service Provider. A webcam and a headset or microphone for your computer is also required.

TECHNOLOGY PROFICIENCY

You should be proficient in the following:

- basic computer skills, including typing
- sending/receiving email
- using a web browser

COMPUTER MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Hardware

- PC, laptop, Mac or Macbook with fast processor
- Monitor
- Speakers
- Microphone
- Headset
- Webcam

Processor and RAM requirements

	Recommended
Processor	Dual Core 2Ghz or Higher (i3/i5/i7 or AMD equivalent)
RAM	4Gb

Software

- Windows 8.1 or Above
- macOS 10.14 Mojave or Above

Recommended browsers

- Windows: Edge 12+, Firefox 27+, Chrome 30+
- Mac: Safari 7+, Firefox 27+, Chrome 30+

Internet Connection

- High speed Broadband Internet Connection is required
 - Test your Internet speed independently using [speedtest.net](https://www.speedtest.net)
 - Recommended Internet speeds:
 - Ping response is less than **100ms**
 - Download speed is at least **10Mbps**
 - Upload speed is at least **2Mbps**

- Please consider the following while participating in online exams:
 - Make sure that the exam window is the only window you have open on your computer, and there are no other programmes running in the background, as they might interfere with the online exam system as well as our monitoring processes.
 - Using a shared Internet connection may impact connectivity, such as additional household members use of streaming TV, gaming, and other Internet usage.
 - Wireless connections may be impacted by the distance from the router and interference from microwaves and other electronics.
 - Your Internet Service Provider's performance may vary throughout the day based on community usage.

USE OF ZOOM

- You can open a Zoom account (the basic account is free) or sign in using your Google or Facebook account.
- Invitations to sessions held on Zoom may be shared with you via email or What's App.
- Further information about Zoom can be found here: <https://zoom.us/>

EMAIL

The email address you provide will be the email address to which communications are sent. If you change your email address, please inform us as soon as possible so you continue to receive updates and relevant messages from your examination centre.

SAMPLE EXAMS

You can access sample online exams on the GA website.

Online Classic: <https://www.gatehouseawards.org/sample-assessments/>

Online CADETS: <https://www.gatehouseawards.org/qualifications/esol-cadets/online-sample-assessments/>

IMPORTANT

Please ensure that you complete a full online sample assessment at the level you have registered for at least one day ahead of the examination session. This will help you get familiar with the online exam format, as well as address any potential technical issues before the exam session.

Please ensure that you complete the sample assessment under your full name, so that there is a record of it on the GA system.

Candidates who experience technical issues on the day of the exam may be offered one additional retake opportunity provided that they have fully complied with the above guidance.