

KNOWLEDGE SUPPLEMENT

Getting to Know the Securities Industry Essentials Exam (SIE) and What it Means for You

Your Guide to Understanding and Preparing for the SIE Exam

An Overview of the Securities Industry Essentials Exam

Introduced in 2018, the Securities Industry Essentials (SIE) is a corequisite exam that is required to be registered in the financial services industry.

The SIE exam is administered by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), and is comprised of common content across several representative licensing exams. Passing the SIE exam is one of the first steps to becoming a licensed professional in the securities industry.

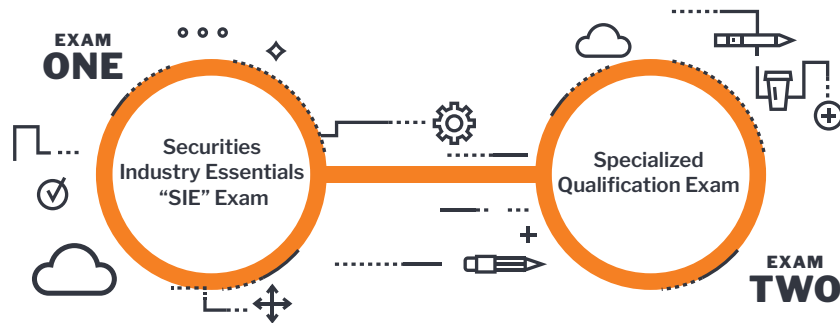
SIE Exam Quick Facts:

- ✓ **Entry level exam**
- ✓ **Corequisite to representative level exams**
- ✓ **Sponsorship not required**
- ✓ **Consists of 75 questions**
- ✓ **70% or better score to pass**
- ✓ **Passing score valid for 4 years**

FINRA Exam Structure

Two-part Structure

The FINRA representative level registration program consists of two exams:



The two-part structure streamlines general securities knowledge in the SIE exam and covers specific representative level knowledge in the corresponding qualification exams.

What does it mean for you?

In order to become a registered representative, you must pass both the SIE and the appropriate representative level qualification exam.

The introductory level SIE exam demonstrates knowledge of basic securities industry information, while qualification exams demonstrate competency in specific sectors of the securities industry.

Passing the SIE exam will increase your marketability in the financial services industry. Prospective employers will recognize you are ambitious and eager to begin your career. Once you are confident that you are prepared to pass, we recommend taking the SIE exam. This can be a great way to catch the eye of future employers when they are reviewing resumes to identify standout candidates.

Important information about the SIE and representative-level qualification exams:

- ✓ **Sponsorship by a member firm is not required for the SIE but is for the qualification exams**
- ✓ **Both exams are corequisites and may be taken in any order**

FINRA Registration Information

Each qualification exam correlates to a representative-level registration position (e.g., Series 7 and General Securities Representative) and tests content specific to that category or job function. The qualification exams include the Series 6, 7, 22, 57, 79, 82, 86, 87 and 99.

Registration Category	Required Exams
Investment Company and Variable Contracts Products Representative (IR)	SIE + Series 6
General Securities Representative (GS)	SIE + Series 7
Direct Participation Programs Representative (DR)	SIE + Series 22
Securities Trader Representative (TD)	SIE + Series 57
Investment Banking Representative (IB)	SIE + Series 79
Private Securities Offerings Representative (PR)	SIE + Series 82
Research Analyst (RS)	SIE + Series 86 + Series 87
Operations Professional (OS)	SIE + Series 99

SIE Exam Details

Who can take the SIE exam?

The SIE exam requirements are simple and straightforward: anyone 18 years of age or older can sit for the exam. You do not need to be sponsored by a member firm to take the SIE.

How difficult is the SIE exam?

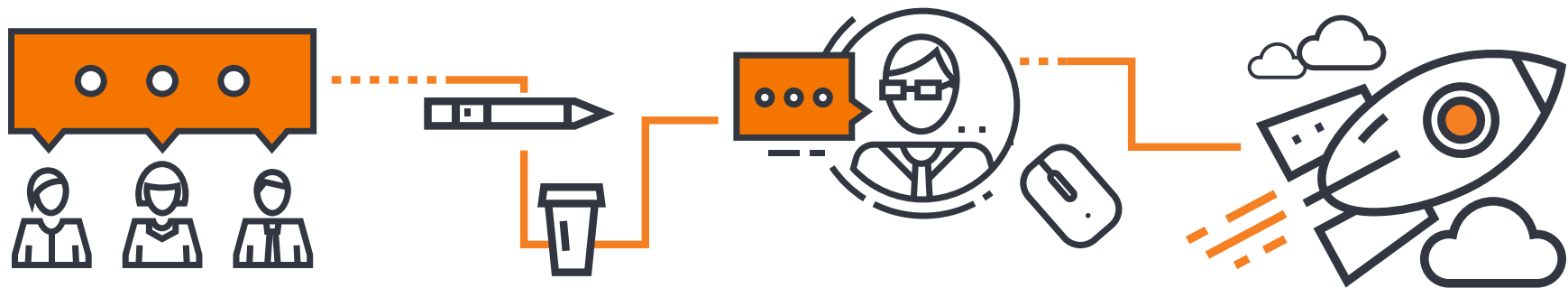
The degree of difficulty of the SIE exam is largely dependent on your current knowledge and education in the financial services industry. You will find it challenging if you go into the test without proper preparation. However, with the right exam training, you can successfully pass the SIE exam on your first attempt.

SIE Exam Sections:

- Knowledge of Capital Markets
- Understanding Products and Their Risks
- Understanding Trading, Customer Accounts and Prohibited Activities
- Overview of Regulatory Framework

What is the format of the SIE exam?

The multiple-choice exam consists of 75 questions, and candidates are given one hour and 45 minutes to complete. To pass, you will need to score a 70%.



Why Choose ExamFX?

As the industry leader in online exam prep, ExamFX has a proven track record of offering user-friendly, innovative eLearning tools to help students pass their licensing exams. In fact, we have helped over 7 million candidates prepare for important licensing exams. Combining streamlined content, cutting-edge online tools, and highly predictive practice exams, we ensure all candidates are prepared for their exam day. Whether you are starting a career or managing a firm in the securities industry, ExamFX partners with you to ensure success — it's our top priority.

Benefits for Financial Services Candidates



Our program accommodates multiple learning preferences and our adaptive learning technology ensures candidates will be prepared for exam day.



Our commitment to accurate and easily understandable content provides candidates with the industry's leading online licensing training materials.



We are so confident in our training program that we guarantee users who successfully complete the Guarantee Exam will pass their licensing exam on their first attempt!

Additional Resources

- [FINRA Securities Industry Essentials \(SIE\) Exam Prep Course Information](#)
- [Everything You Need to Know About the Securities Industry Essentials Exam Blog Post](#)
- [How Hard is the SIE Exam Blog Post](#)
- [How to Study for the SIE Exam: Five Ways to Prepare with ExamFX Blog Post](#)
- [Pass Guarantee Information](#)

