



香港學術及職業資歷評審局
Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of
Academic & Vocational Qualifications

QR Operators Briefing 2013

29 November 2013 (Friday)

3:30 p.m. – 5:10 p.m.

Presented by: Qualifications Framework Secretariat
HKCAAVQ



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QR Operators Briefing 2013

Award Titles Scheme and Use of Credit
under the Qualifications Framework:
Quality Assurance

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Summary List of Qualifications in Early Compliance with Award Titles Scheme (ATS)

| Type of Operator | Level | | | | | | | | Total |
|-------------------------------|---------|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-------------|-------|
| | ATS = Y | | | | | | | ATS= Y+E | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | | |
| All Operators | 377 | 494 | 672 | 1117 | 1067 | 903 | 211 | 8 | 4849 |
| Self-accrediting | 16 | 117 | 248 | 558 | 965 | 877 | 211 | 0 | 2992 |
| PAA (i.e. Shue Yan and HKAPA) | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 19 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 32 |
| PAA (i.e. VTC) | 1 | 27 | 522 | 436 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1021 |
| ERB | 341 | 276 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 645 |



Case 1

- In seeking CEF listing, we intend to change the qualification title for the short courses to Certificate of Attainment.
- Does alignment apply to both the qualification title and the programme title, or can we keep the existing programme titles and revise the qualification titles only?



Case 2

We want to provide a separate title for short courses to differentiate them from the Certificate which is 30 credits. These short courses only have 30 to 48 hours.



Case 3:

The use of Foundation Degree at QF Level 4 is outside the Award Titles Scheme.



Case 4:

- The ATS specifies five qualifiers which may be used by operators for their qualifications.
- Other than the “Revised Common Descriptors” that provide delineation between Associate Degree and Higher Diploma, there is no further reference or explanation to help differentiate the other qualifiers. The typical examples are the qualifiers “Professional” and “Advanced”.



Assessment of credits

- Institutional Policy + system
 - Moderation and benchmarking
 - Diploma 60 credits
 - 120 credits in a year
 - Reference to ratios
 - Majority of credits at (or above) the exit level.
- * Focus is on learning outcomes and the time taken to achieve them.



Case 5:

- Most operators adopt a “Fixed Ratio” approach to QF Credit assignment. They usually make reference to the range of ratios between contact hours and self-study hours that was suggested in the “Operational Guidelines on Use of Credit”.
- The ratio at 1:2 is widely used, especially for Diploma qualifications. However the ratio adopted by some operators, is more than 1:2, i.e. 1:3 or 1:4.



Case 6:

Same ratio of contact hours to self-study hours (1:1) and same credit size (9 credits) apply uniformly to all courses without taking into account the specific nature of some courses and the teaching and learning methods.



Operator Response:

Having reviewed the syllabus of each course, the operator adjusted the ratio of contact hours to self-study hours and credit size of the following courses:

- a) For two General Education courses – the operator shifted 10 and 11 self-study hours to contact hours so that teaching staff can provide more face-to-face guidance on class activities and students' preparation of presentations.
- b) For Four Major courses with practical elements – the operator required students to spend an additional 15 self-study hours to practice their skills, resulting in an increase of the credit value from 9 to 11 of each course.
- c) For a Chinese language course – the operator allows students an additional 45 self-study hours for reading and doing assignments, resulting in an increase of the credit value from 9 to 14.



- The Second Implementation Cut-off Date on 1 January 2016:
 - Titles of all programmes registered in the QR to conform to the ATS; And
 - All programmes at Levels 1 to 4 to indicate the QF credit values on the QR.



- For existing programmes due for re-validation before 1 January 2016:
 - To comply with the ATS; And
 - To include the QF credit values in the re-validation exercise.



- Commencing November 2012, assessing credit allocation to existing and new learning programmes has been embedded in the regular training workshops conducted by HKCAAVQ on Initial Evaluation and Programme Validation.
- For enquiries about HKCAAVQ's tailor-made in-house training, please contact Mr Ken Lau on 3658 0106; or email to workshop@hkcaavq.edu.hk.



- For further information about compliance with the ATS and QF Credits, please contact:
 - Mr Wilbur Pang on 3658 0112 or email to wilburpang@hkcaavq.edu.hk (for academic programmes);
 - Mr Sam Ho on 3658 0151 or email to samho@hkcaavq.edu.hk (for vocational and education training programmes).



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Thank You!