



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

HKCAAVQ's role as gate-opener and gate-keeper

1. What are HKCAAVQ's responsibilities?

The Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance, nominates HKCAAVQ as the Accreditation Authority, responsible for the quality assurance of qualifications awarded by non-self-accrediting operators. Accreditation by HKCAAVQ is necessary if operators wish to have their qualifications recognised under the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (QF) and listed on the Qualifications Register (QR).

The HKCAAVQ Ordinance implies that HKCAAVQ should be both the 'gate opener' for operators seeking to have their qualifications recognised under the QF and the 'gate keeper' on behalf of the Hong Kong community to ensure that QF-recognised programmes are meeting the QF standards.

2. What does it mean that HKCAAVQ performs the role as gate-opener?

HKCAAVQ performs its gate-opening role by providing information about the accreditation standards and the accreditation process. This includes:

- a. publication of information documents, i.e. guidelines, guidance notes and submission forms;
- b. conduct of training workshops and seminars; and

- c. engaging in dialogue with operators in the facilitation phase before the accreditation process begins in order to help them prepare for the submission of accreditation documents.

In other words, HKCAAVQ supports operators in understanding the minimum accreditation requirements.

3. What does it mean that HKCAAVQ performs the role as gate-keeper?

HKCAAVQ performs its gate-keeping role through the accreditation process. Using the accreditation standards, HKCAAVQ conducts accreditation to test an operator's institutional competence and its ability to operate learning programmes that meet the minimum standards to qualify for recognition under the QF. Only operators and learning programmes that pass the accreditation test will be accredited.

It is necessary that accredited operators and their learning programmes show that they are competent to meet the minimum standards throughout the accreditation validity period.

HKCAAVQ also performs the role as gate-keeper in its capacity of QR Authority. The QR Authority maintains the QR and makes sure through vetting that the uploaded qualifications are accurate, credible and reliable. The QR Authority also monitors that references to the QF by operators in the promotion of their learning programmes follow the promulgated guidelines for advertisement.