



For Immediate Release

**Education Bureau (EDB) announces that the Hong Kong Metropolitan University (HKMU) has qualified as the first University of Applied Sciences (UAS) in Hong Kong**

- **As commissioned by EDB, Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) completed the Institutional Review for the first UAS in Hong Kong. As announced by EDB today, that HKMU has been qualified as the first UAS in Hong Kong.**
- **The establishment ceremony was held at HKMU Jockey Club Institute of Healthcare on 21 March 2024.**

【Hong Kong, 22 March 2024】 The Establishment Ceremony of First UAS in Hong Kong was officiated by Dr CHOI Yuk-lin, JP, Secretary for Education, Ms Michelle LI Mei-sheung, JP, Permanent Secretary for Education, Hon Rock CHEN Chung-nin, SBS, JP, Council Chairman of HKCAAVQ, Mr Albert CHOW Hing-pong, Executive Director of HKCAAVQ, Ir Dr Conrad WONG Tin-cheung, BBS, JP, Council Chairman of HKMU, and Professor Paul LAM Kwan-sing, SBS, JP, President of HKMU.

During the ceremony, Dr CHOI announced that HKMU had met all criteria and become the first UAS in Hong Kong. She said that HKMU demonstrates its vision, commitment, capabilities and experience in providing high-level vocational and professional education and training (VPET) programmes that blend theory and practice, and having strong recognition and support from industries.

As commissioned by EDB, HKCAAVQ serves as the quality assurance agency and has made references to international experiences in developing the UAS criteria and formed a panel consisting of academic and professional experts to conduct the Institutional Review.

Hon Rock CHEN, Council Chairman of HKCAAVQ extended heartfelt congratulations to HKMU for qualifying as the first UAS. He said that the promotion of setting up UAS as having immense social significance, “this policy aims to nurture the talents of our students, enabling them to unlock their full potential and empowering those with diverse abilities and interests. This policy assumes a pivotal role in facilitating the upward mobility of our young generation, ensuring that they have ample opportunities to excel and grow. Looking ahead, HKCAAVQ will advocate in the role as a quality assurance gatekeeper to continuously providing unwavering support to EDB and assisting the Government in promoting the development of UAS as well as VPET, as a way of benefitting students, institutions and the broader society.”

Ir Dr Conrad WONG Tin-cheung, BBS, JP, Council Chairman of HKMU said, “UASs have been successfully developed in many places around the world. The establishment of the first UAS in Hong Kong will not only provide diverse study pathways for young people, but also promote Hong Kong as an international hub for post-secondary education.” Ir Dr WONG also expressed gratitude to EDB and HKCAAVQ for recognising HKMU’s capabilities in becoming a UAS.



According to the Institutional Review Manual for UAS (IR-UAS), HKMU should conduct an Ongoing Review no later than 3 years after the first IR-UAS. Thereafter, Ongoing Reviews will be conducted within a 6-year cycle.

**Further details about the criteria for qualifying as UAS are available in the [IR-UAS](#).**

**Link to EDB's Press Release:**

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202403/21/P2024032100306.htm?fontSize=1>

**Link to HKMU's Press Release:**

<https://www.hkmu.edu.hk/news/hkmu-becomes-hong-kongs-first-university-of-applied-sciences-with-a-commitment-to-promote-the-development-of-uass/>

###

## ABOUT HKCAAVQ

The Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), formerly the Hong Kong Council for Academic Accreditation (HKCAA), was established in 1990 as an independent statutory body to provide authoritative advice on academic standards of degree programmes in higher education institutions in Hong Kong. In 2007, the Council was reconstituted under the HKCAAVQ Ordinance (Chapter 1150). The HKCAAVQ took on responsibility for the vocational and professional education and training sector and statutory roles as the Accreditation Authority and Qualifications Register Authority under the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (Chapter 592). The HKCAAVQ provides quality assurance and assessment services to education and training institutions, course providers and the general public. In addition to its statutory roles, the HKCAAVQ also provides advisory and consultancy services in education qualifications and standards to government bureaux and other organisations in Hong Kong and the Asia-Pacific region.

More details available at <https://www.hkcaavq.edu.hk/en/>

### Media Enquiries

#### Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications

Head of Executive Support and  
Corporate Communications

Ms Claudia Lam

Tel: 3658 0123

Email: [claudialam@hkcaavq.edu.hk](mailto:claudialam@hkcaavq.edu.hk)

#### Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications

Executive Manager  
(Corporate Communications)

Ms Natalie Chan

Tel: 3658 0198

Email: [nataliechan@hkcaavq.edu.hk](mailto:nataliechan@hkcaavq.edu.hk)

END