



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

## **SUMMARY ACCREDITATION REPORT**

**Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education,  
Vocational Training Council**

**Hong Kong Design Institute,  
Vocational Training Council**

**Programme Area Accreditation  
Architectural Studies**

**February 2019**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Vocational Training Council (VTC) is a vocational education provider governed by the VTC Ordinance (Cap 1130). At present, there are 13 member institutions under VTC. The Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education, Vocational Training Council (職業訓練局香港專業教育學院) and the Hong Kong Design Institute, Vocational Training Council (職業訓練局香港知專設計學院) (the Operators) offer vocational education and training programmes ranging from Higher Diploma to Certificate.
- 1.2 In 2016, HKCAAVQ conducted a Programme Area Accreditation (PAA) and Periodic Review exercise and granted the six member institutions of VTC, namely the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (IVE), the Hong Kong Design Institute (HKDI), the Maritime Services Training Institute (MSTI), the Hotel and Tourism Institute (HTI), the Chinese Culinary Institute (CCI) and the International Culinary Institute (ICI), the PAA status at Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (QF) Level 4 in 30 programme areas under the New Classification of Areas of Study and Training in the Qualifications Register (QR).
- 1.3 Meanwhile, the Design Discipline of VTC has been offering two Higher Diploma programmes, namely, the Higher Diploma in Architectural Design (HDAD) and Higher Diploma in Landscape Architecture (HDLA) starting from 2012. The two higher diplomas were re-accredited by HKCAAVQ in 2016.
- 1.4 Based on the above track records and with the objective of having greater flexibility in developing vocational and professional education and training programmes in a wider scope to meet the evolving needs of industries, the Operators submitted an application for PAA for the programme area “Architectural Studies” to HKCAAVQ in June 2018.

## **2. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- 2.1 Based on the Service Agreement (No.: VA906), the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), in the capacity of the Accreditation Authority as provided for under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (Cap 592) (AAVQO), was commissioned by the two member institutions under the Vocational Training Council (職業訓練局), namely the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education, Vocational Training Council (職業訓練局香港專業教育學院) and the Hong Kong Design Institute, Vocational Training Council (職業訓練局香港知專設計學院) (the Operators) to conduct a Programme Area Accreditation (PAA) exercise with the following Terms of Reference:

- (a) To conduct an accreditation test as provided for in the AAVQO to determine whether the two member institutions under the Vocational Training Council (職業訓練局), namely the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education, Vocational Training Council (職業訓練局香港專業教育學院) and the Hong Kong Design Institute, Vocational Training Council (職業訓練局香港知專設計學院) (the Operators) are competent to ensure that its learning programmes at QF Level 4 under the programme area as listed below meet Qualifications Framework (QF) standards, and that the Operators can be granted PAA status at QF Level 4 for the respective programme area; and
- (b) To issue to the Operators accreditation report(s) setting out the results of the determination in relation to (a) by HKCAAVQ.

**Programme Area Proposed by the Operators**

<b>Area of Study and Training</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Programme Area</b>	<b>Claimed QF Level</b>
Architecture and Town Planning	Architecture, Construction and Town Planning	Architectural Studies	4

- 2.2 The accreditation exercise was conducted according to the relevant accreditation guidelines referred to in the Service Agreement. A site visit took place on 29 November 2018.

**3. HKCAAVQ'S DETERMINATION**

**Programme Area Accreditation**

- 3.1 HKCAAVQ has determined that, the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education, Vocational Training Council and the Hong Kong Design Institute, Vocational Training Council (the Operators) are competent to ensure its learning programmes under the programme area "Architectural Studies" can meet the Qualifications Framework (QF) standards; and that the Operators can be granted Programme Area Accreditation (PAA) status for the programme area at QF Level 4 under the respective Area of Study and Training and Sub-areas with a validity period from 1 March 2019 to 29 February 2024.

**3.2 Validity Period**

- 3.2.1 The validity period will commence on the date specified below.

- 3.3 The determinations on the PAA are specified as follows:

<b>Name of Operators</b>	Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education, Vocational Training Council 職業訓練局香港專業教育學院  Hong Kong Design Institute, Vocational Training Council 職業訓練局香港知專設計學院
<b>Address of Operators</b>	Vocational Training Council Tower, 27 Wood Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong 香港灣仔活道 27 號職業訓練局大樓
<b>Name of Award Granting Body</b>	Vocational Training Council 職業訓練局
<b>Area of Study and Training</b>	Architecture and Town Planning
<b>Sub-area</b>	Architecture, Construction and Town Planning
<b>Programme Area and Scope of Programme Area</b>	<u>Architectural Studies</u>  Study and training in arts, science and/or technology of architectural studies – which comprises architectural design, landscape architecture, urban design, and interior architecture – including planning, investigating and formulating solutions.
<b>QF Level</b>	Level 4
<b>Validity Period</b>	1 March 2019 to 29 February 2024
<b>Addresses of Teaching/ Training Venues</b>	All teaching and training venues under Vocational Training Council

### 3.4

#### Recommendations

HKCAAVQ offers the following recommendations for continuous improvement.

Recommendations
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Operators should include ex-officio members from local professional bodies in the advisory boards/committees overseeing the academic development of the programme area in architectural studies. As such, the boards/committees can provide information on the latest developments in the architecture and related industries and ensure the learning programmes are aligned with the needs on human capital development of the industries.</li> <li>2. The Operators should provide more guidelines to instructors in developing studio units' project briefs for open studio projects helping instructors to define more accurately the project scopes against the intended learning outcomes of the programmes and to ensure consistency in assessment standards at QF level 4.</li> </ol>

- 3.5 HKCAAVQ will subsequently satisfy itself whether the Operator remains competent to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator by reference to, amongst other things, the Operator's fulfilment of any conditions and compliance with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report. **For the avoidance of doubt, maintenance of accreditation status is subject to fulfilment of any condition and compliance with any restriction stipulated in this Accreditation Report.**

#### **4. IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ACCREDITATION REPORT**

##### **4.1 Variation and withdrawal of this Accreditation Report**

- 4.1.1 This Accreditation Report is issued pursuant to section 5 of the AAVQO, and contains HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding the accreditation, including the validity period as well as any conditions and restrictions subject to which the determination is to have effect.
- 4.1.2 HKCAAVQ may subsequently decide to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report if it is satisfied that any of the grounds set out in section 5 (2) of the AAVQO apply. This includes where HKCAAVQ is satisfied that the Operators are no longer competent to achieve the relevant objectives and/or the Programme no longer meets the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operators (whether by reference to the Operators' failure to fulfil any conditions and/or comply with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report or otherwise) or where at any time during the validity period there has/have been substantial change(s) introduced by the Operator after HKCAAVQ has issued the accreditation report(s) to the Operators and which has/have not been approved by HKCAAVQ. Please refer to the '*Guidance Notes on Substantial Change to Accreditation Status*' in seeking approval for proposed changes. These Guidance Notes can be downloaded from the HKCAAVQ website.
- 4.1.3 If HKCAAVQ decides to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, it will give the Operators notice of such variation or withdrawal pursuant to section 5(4) of the AAVQO.
- 4.1.4 The accreditation status of the Operators and/or Programme will lapse immediately upon the expiry of the validity period or upon the issuance of a notice of withdrawal of this Accreditation Report.

##### **4.2 Appeals**

- 4.2.1 If the Operators are aggrieved by the determination made in this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operators have a right of appeal

to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of this Accreditation Report.

- 4.2.2 If the Operators are aggrieved by a decision to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operators have a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of the Notice of Withdrawal.
- 4.2.3 The Operators should be aware that a notice of variation or withdrawal of this Accreditation Report is not itself an accreditation report and the right to appeal against HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding accreditation arises only from this Accreditation Report.
- 4.2.4 Please refer to Cap 592A ([www.elegislation.gov.hk](http://www.elegislation.gov.hk)) for the appeal rules. Details of the appeal procedure are contained in section 13 of the AAVQO and can be accessed from the QF website at [www.hkqf.gov.hk](http://www.hkqf.gov.hk).

#### 4.3 **Qualifications Register**

- 4.3.1 Upon completion of relevant procedures by Operators as determined by the Qualifications Register (QR) Authority, Operators may enter the qualifications covered within the scope of the PAA status into the QR at [www.hkqr.gov.hk](http://www.hkqr.gov.hk) for recognition under the QF.
- 4.3.2 Only learners who commence the study of a qualification covered within the scope of the PAA status during the validity period and who have graduated with the qualification listed in the QR will be considered to have acquired a qualification recognised under the QF.

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