

Important Milestones of HKQF

The Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (Cap 592) became fully effective on 5 May 2008, implying that HKQF was formally launched. QR and the financial support schemes were also put in place on that date.



Financial Support Schemes

The Education Bureau has introduced various financial support schemes to encourage major stakeholders to participate in QF. The beneficiaries include education and training providers, as well as practitioners or employees who wish to apply for RPL qualifications. (For details, please visit www.hkqf.gov.hk/guie/QFSS.asp)

Qualifications Framework Secretariat

Established in June 2009, the Qualifications Framework Secretariat (QFS) is the executive arm of the Education Bureau to implement and promote HKQF.

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Hong Kong Qualifications Framework



"I have been working in this industry for several years and yet my careers seem stagnant. How can I enhance my competitiveness and hence promotion prospect?"

"Nowadays, everybody is running after academic qualifications. Will my working experience be useful and recognized under Qualifications Framework?"

"I want to enter into this trade but I do not know its job requirements and promotion prospect, what can I do?"



"I want to pursue further studies, is there any good way for comparing and selecting suitable learning programmes?"

"What is the teaching quality of this learning programme? Is the qualification so obtained a recognized one?"



"What are the differences between these two programmes leading to the same award title of 'Advanced Diploma'?"



Pursue your studies through a quality-assured pathway

- ✎ With the rapid development of the global economy, every Hong Kong citizen must better equip himself/herself and enhance his/her capacity in order to meet up with the pace of times.
- ✎ Continuing education and training can help raise the competitiveness of individuals. However, when we map out our roadmap for further studies, we might be puzzled by the large array of qualifications and learning programmes available in the market.
- ✎ The Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF) set up by the Education Bureau of the Hong Kong SAR Government aims to help us in formulating our own learning pathway so that we can achieve our goal of self-enhancement more effectively.

What is Qualifications Framework ?

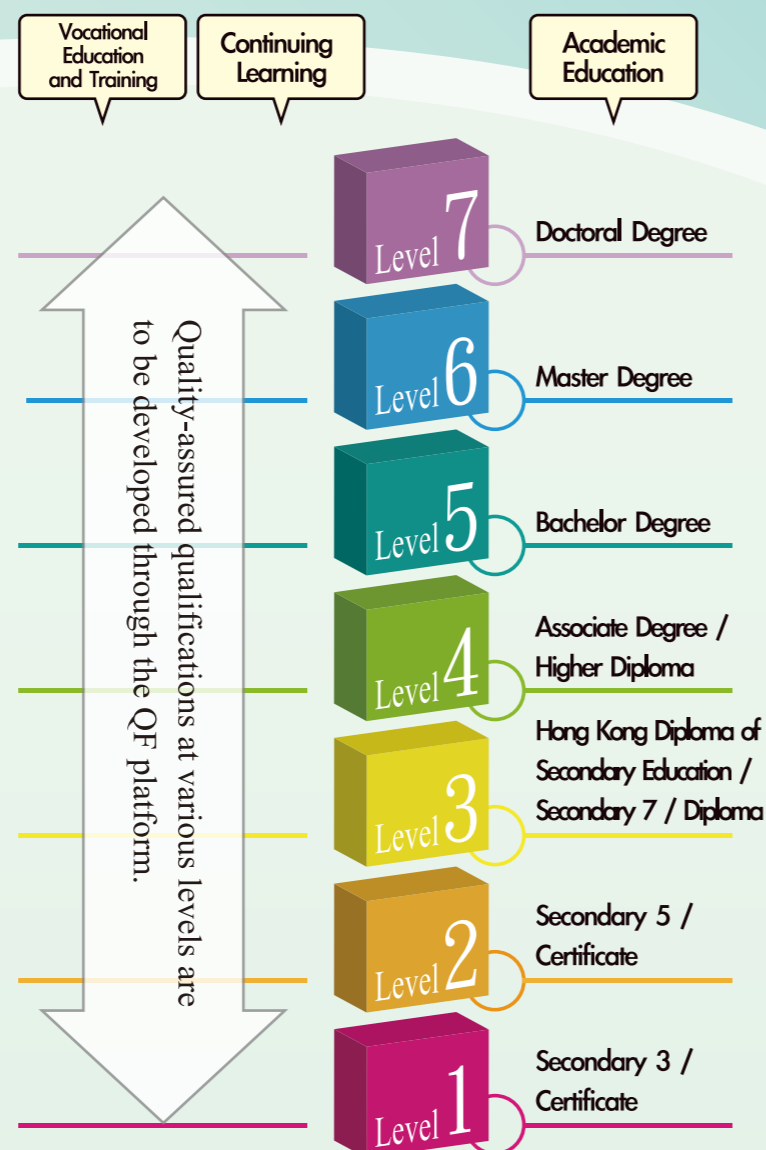
The Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF) is a 7-level hierarchy with level 1 being the lowest and level 7 the highest.

It covers qualifications in the **academic**, **vocational** and **continuing education and training** sectors.

The outcome standards of each level are specified in the Generic Level Descriptors under HKQF, which outlines the major and common characteristics of each of the seven levels.

There is a robust quality assurance mechanism underpinning HKQF to enable you to obtain QF-recognised qualifications through either continuing education and training or the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) mechanism.

Examples of qualifications in different educational sectors under HKQF



Major components of HKQF

Quality Assurance Mechanism

All qualifications and their associated learning programmes have to go through a robust quality assurance process in order to be recognised under HKQF.

Quality assurance bodies under HKQF include Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), Joint Quality Review Committee (JQRC), and self-accrediting universities and educational institutions.

Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ)

Joint Quality Review Committee (JQRC)

Self-accrediting universities and educational institutions

Qualifications Register

All qualifications and their associated learning programmes have to be accredited before they are QF-recognised and uploaded onto Qualifications Register (QR) for free access by the general public.

QR helps you choose among all quality-assured learning programmes that suit your own learning pathway. (For details, please visit www.hkqr.gov.hk)

Specification of Competency Standards

Many industries have joined QF through the setting up of Industry Training Advisory Committees and writing up industry-specific Specification of Competency Standards (SCS). SCS represents a comprehensive set of competency requirements and standards required of a specific industry at various levels under various functional areas.

SCS is of wide application. Apart from being the blueprint for enriching the contents of education and training programmes, it is useful reference for human resources development and management functions, as well as for benchmarking purposes.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Experienced practitioners are able to have their skills, knowledge and experience acquired in the workplace formally recognized through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) mechanism under HKQF.

Based on RPL qualifications so obtained, an individual may pursue further training without starting from scratch or repeating training. (For details, please visit <http://rpl.vtc.edu.hk>)

