

Good Practices on Credit Accumulation and Transfer under the Qualifications Framework

Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
Applied Learning (ApL)	ApL courses are elective subjects within the senior secondary curriculum. ApL offers studies with equal emphasis on practice and theory linked to broad professional and vocational fields. ApL helps students explore their career aspirations and orientation for lifelong learning.
Block Credit Transfer (BCT)	Credits received by a learner for a completed qualification in a related subject area, in the form of a “block” of unspecified credits, towards the programme requirements for graduation.
Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT)	A process to facilitate recognition and validation of units of learning and allow learners to move from one programme to another without having to duplicate learning.
General Education (GE)	An area of study to be undertaken by all learners, defined by individual institutions, which usually contains basic requirements in numeracy and literacy.
Generic Level Descriptors (GLD)	A set of GLD specifies, in four domains (knowledge and intellectual skills; processes; autonomy and accountability; and communication, ICT and numeracy), the outcome standards expected of the qualifications at each of the seven levels of the QF.
Industry Training Advisory Committee (ITAC)	An ITAC consists of representatives of employers, employees, professional bodies and regulatory bodies of the relevant industries. The primary task of an ITAC is to draw up competency standards in respect of key functional areas of the industry concerned.
Qualifications Framework (QF)	The QF is a seven-level hierarchy covering quality assured qualifications in the academic, vocational and professional, and continuing education and training sectors to promote and support lifelong learning with a view to continuously

	enhancing the quality, professionalism and competitiveness of the local workforce.
Qualifications Register (QR)	A web-based database (www.hkqr.gov.hk) providing information about qualifications and related learning programmes recognised under the QF. All qualifications listed on the QR are quality-assured.
Recognition Of Prior Learning (RPL)	RPL refers to the recognition of knowledge, skills and competencies already acquired by practitioners through their prior experience in the workplace for the award of a qualification at QF Levels 1 to 4. The assessment of RPL is carried out by an appointed Assessment Agency for an industry.
Specification of Competency Standards (SCS)	SCS sets out the skills, knowledge and competency standards required of practitioners to perform various job functions in industries effectively. The competency standards applicable to an industry are presented as Units of Competency in its SCS.
Specification of Generic (Foundation) Competencies (SGC)	SGC sets out the foundation competencies from QF Levels 1 to 4, which covers four strands of generic skills: English, Chinese (including Cantonese and Putonghua), Information Technology, and Numeracy.
Senior Year Admissions (SYA)	A scheme whereby holders of a recognised Associate Degree or Higher Diploma and learners with other equivalent qualifications are eligible for admission to funded senior year places (i.e. to Year 3 of a four/five-year programme) offered by the University Grants Committee-funded universities.
Units of Competency (UoC)	The competency standards applicable to an industry as defined by the relevant ITAC. Every UoC comprises eight basic items, including name, code, level, credit, competency, range, assessment, criteria, and remarks.
Vocational and Professional	VPET plays a pivotal role in broadening the learning opportunities for young people and working adults as well

Education and Training (VPET)	as nurturing the human capital required for Hong Kong's development. (https://www.vpet.edu.hk/en/Overview.html)
Vocational Qualifications Pathway (VQP)	VQP represents a roadmap for progression in learning and employment in an industry along which learners or practitioners can progress at various levels through the attainment or acquisition of the required occupation based qualifications. (https://www.hkqf.gov.hk/en/vqp/index.html)