



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

HKQF International Conference 2018

QF for Quality: Good Practices in Quality Assurance

Differentiation in Accreditation

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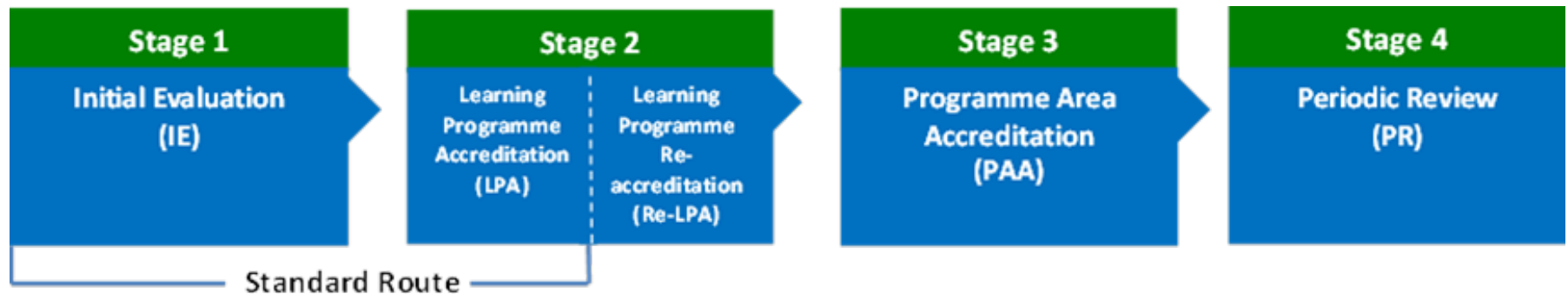
Executive Director, HKCAAVQ





HKCAAVQ accreditation process (Four-stage Quality Assurance Process)

- Recognition of performance and track record of operators is built into the process.





Differentiation in Accreditation

- Recognition of track record in Accreditation
- Guiding Principles in Conducting Accreditation
 - a) Peer Review
 - b) Standards based
 - c) Evidence based
 - d) Fitness for Purpose
- Initially applies to Learning Programme accreditation and re-Accreditation

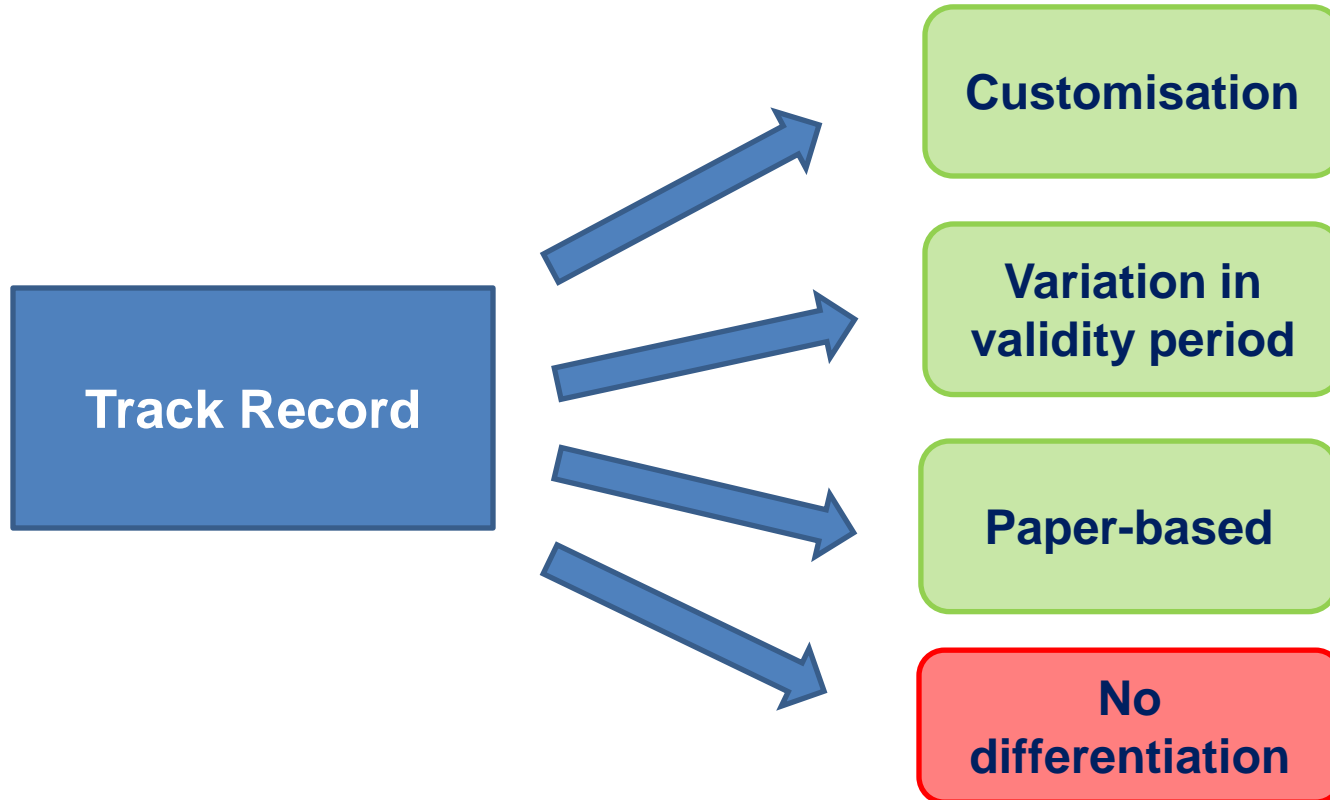


Differentiation in Accreditation

- To allow more differentiation in accreditation approaches proportionate to the performance and track record of Operators.
- Recognition of the performance of Operators in accreditation and the strength of their internal quality assurance arrangements.
- HKCAAVQ's Quality Management System (QMS) captures the performance profile of individual Operators in their accreditation/assessment history.
- Current implementation started in July 2017. Still at an early stage of implementation and will be further calibrated.



Possible Approaches to Differentiation





Definition of Track Record

Track Record	Indicators
Accreditation history	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Years of accreditation experience• Nature of accreditation experience• Number and types of programmes successfully accredited• Quality of accreditation submission
Accreditation outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pre-conditions and/or requirements stipulated at institutional and/ or programme level in accreditation exercises• Validity periods granted in past exercises
External recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operators with self-accrediting status• Third-party endorsement from an overseas accreditation authority and/or professional body
Operator's performance in other exercises	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performance in other assessment services conducted by HKCAAVQ (e.g. Continuing Education Fund, Continuing Professional Development, registration under Cap 493 Non-local Higher and Professional Education (Regulation) Ordinance)
Compliance to rules and regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compliance to all related rules and regulations under accreditation and assessment



Customisation

Accreditation Approach	Criteria from Track Record	Other considerations
Customised accreditation (e.g. confined scope of review, lightened submission, smaller panel size, and shorter site visit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accreditation Outcome• Compliance record	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• a programme of the operator in the same/ similar discipline/ industry has been recently re-accredited



Variation in Validity Period

Accreditation Approach	Criteria from Track Record	Other considerations
Variation in validity period (An extended validity period)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accreditation History• Accreditation Outcome• Compliance record	NA



Paper-based

Accreditation Approach	Criteria from Track Record	Other considerations
Paper-based review accreditation (i.e. no site visit will be conducted in the process)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accreditation History• Accreditation Outcome• Accreditation submission• Compliance record	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• External Recognition• a programme of the operator in the same/ similar discipline/ industry has been recently re-accredited



Implementation since 3 July 2017†

	Academic Accreditation	Vocational and Professional Accreditation
Differentiation used	18 (out of 20*) exercises	8 (out of 68*) exercises
Customisation	15 (out of 18)	2 (out of 8)
Variation in Validity Period	2 (out of 18)	8 (out of 8)
Paper-based	2 (out of 18)	7 (out of 8)

† : based on service agreement signed

* : satisfying the eligibility requirements



Looking Forward

- Continuous monitoring of the balance between the benefits of the implementation of differentiation and effective quality assurance of the programmes and institutions concerned
- Coherence with revised accreditation standards designed to encourage development of internal quality assurance mechanisms of programmes and institutions
- Further exploration of applications in differentiation in terms of scope and context
- Further leveraging on information captured in QMS
- Expand the scope of information to be considered. For example, accreditation/recognition by other authorities
- To facilitate dialogue with Operators



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Thank You

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