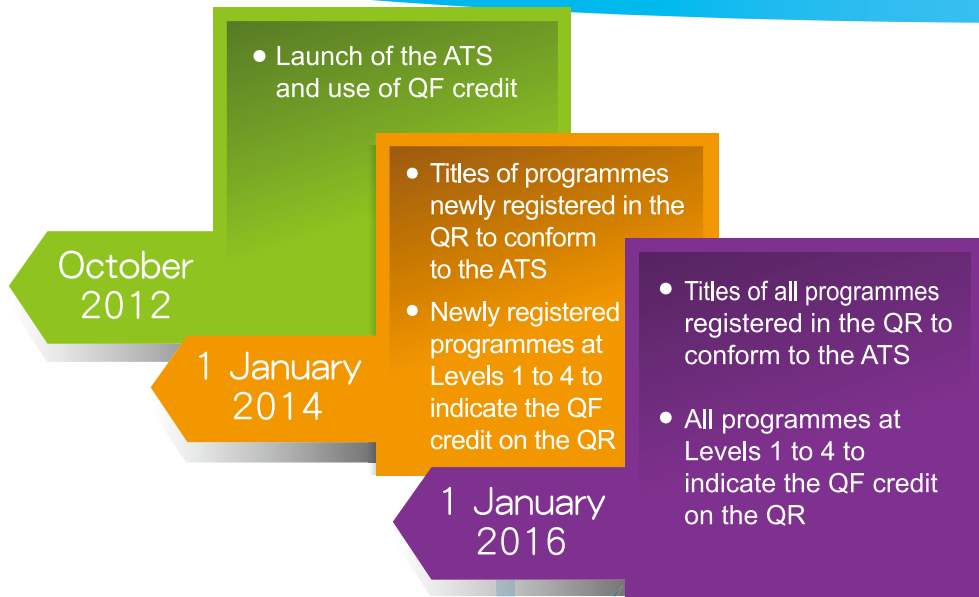


Implementation Plan

- The EDB announced the implementation of the ATS and Use of Credit in **October 2012**. Educational institutions and training providers will adopt the award titles according to the ATS and show the QF credit of their programmes on the QR by phases.
- Effective from **1 January 2014**, all programmes newly registered in the QR will adopt titles that conform to the ATS. Effective from **1 January 2016**, all programmes on the QR will adopt titles that conform to the ATS.
- In respect of the programmes at Levels 1 to 4, the QF credit will also be shown on the QR according to the above timetable.



Note: The timetable for indicating the QF credit of programmes at Level 5 or above will be subject to further consultation with stakeholders concerned. Details will be announced in due course.

Related Links

Details of the ATS and Use of Credit are available at QF website (www.hkqf.gov.hk). Qualifications recognised under QF and the associated learning programmes can be found on QR website (www.hkqr.gov.hk).

Enquiry

Qualifications Framework Secretariat Tel.: (852) 2836 1700 Email: hkqf@edb.gov.hk

Education Bureau
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

October 2012

Award Titles Scheme and Use of Credit under Qualifications Framework

The Education Bureau (EDB) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government has launched the Qualifications Framework (QF) to provide a platform to promote continuing education and lifelong learning with a view to enhancing the competitiveness of our workforce. The QF is a seven-level hierarchy of qualifications. All qualifications recognised under the QF have to go through a robust quality assurance process before they are uploaded onto the Qualifications Register (QR) (www.hkqr.gov.hk).

To facilitate learners in choosing suitable learning programmes, the EDB announced in October 2012 the implementation of the **Award Titles Scheme** and **Use of Credit** under the QF. The two initiatives aim to enhance the transparency of qualifications and enable learners to know clearly the level of a qualification and the learning time required to complete a programme.



資歷架構
Qualifications
Framework

Award Titles Scheme

The Award Titles Scheme (ATS) specifies the award titles that can be used for qualifications at various QF levels so that learners can better understand the level of qualifications from the titles.

QF Level	Choice of Award Titles for Different Levels				
7	Doctor 博士				
6	Master 碩士	Postgraduate Diploma 深造文憑 Postgraduate Certificate 深造證書	↑	↑	↑
5	Bachelor 學士		Professional Diploma 專業文憑 Professional Certificate 專業證書	Advanced Diploma 高等文憑 Advanced Certificate 高等證書	Diploma 文憑
4	Associate 副學士	Higher Diploma 高級文憑 Higher Certificate 高級證書	↓	↓	↓
3					↓
2					↑
1					Foundation Certificate 基礎證書

Each programme recognised under the QF is assigned a QR Registration Number, with the last digit signifying its QF level (1 for Level 1 and 2 for Level 2, etc.)

QR Registration Number: 09/xxxxxx/x1

■ Year of First Registration in the QR ■ QF Level

QF Credit

The credit unit adopted under the QF in Hong Kong, known as “QF Credit”, indicates the overall learning time expected to complete a programme. One QF credit consists of 10 notional learning hours, which takes into account the total time likely to be spent by an average learner on all modes of learning, including attendance in classes, self-study, on-line learning, practical learning, examination, etc. Providers will show the QF credit of their programmes on the QR by phases to enable learners to know the volume of learning of a programme and the expected time required to complete the learning.



Note: ● A “Diploma” programme should consist of at least 60 credits. There is no minimum requirement on the credit value of a “Certificate” programme.
 ● Educational institutions and training providers may specify the QF level of the qualification in its title.
 ● There are a few special award titles that are permitted by the EDB and recognised under the QF.
 For details, please visit QF website(www.hkqf.gov.hk).