

Certified Banker -

Conversion and Transition Arrangement for ABP/AHKIB & CB Candidates, Qualification and Designation Holders

Section A: Background

The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (HKIB) launched its new Professional Banking Qualification Programme — "Certified Banker" (or "CB") on 1 January 2017.

The series of CB Professional Banking Qualification Programmes contain 3 progressive levels, from the Advanced Diploma Programme (QF Level 4), the Professional Diploma Programme (QF Level 5) to the Postgraduate Diploma Programme (QF Level 6). These series of programmes are replacing the respective qualification programmes of the Associate of The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (AHKIB). In line with the AHKIB, CB has a modular programme structure.

Upon completion of the corresponding programme as listed below and having accumulated the required banking or finance work experience, HKIB members are also entitled to use the respective CB designation.

QF Level	Programme Title (Up to 31 Dec 2016) <Designation>	New Programme Title (from 2017 onwards) <Designation>
6	Postgraduate Diploma Program in Banking and Financial Services for AHKIB <AHKIB>	Postgraduate Diploma Programme for Certified Banker <CB>
5	Professional Diploma Program in Banking and Financial Services N/A	Professional Diploma Programme for Certified Banker <CB (Stage II)>
4	Advanced Diploma Program in Banking and Financial Services for ABP <ABP>	Advanced Diploma Programme for Certified Banker <CB (Stage I)>

In 2018, the CB programme structure and individual module syllabus have undergone further enhancement to better address the recent market developments and practices as well as regulatory requirements. To help candidates understand the effort and time expected to complete the programmes, the CB programmes now utilise a credit system where the credits are benchmarked against the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (QF) Credits.

A Conversion and Transition arrangement is now available for candidates studying the ABP/AHKIB/CB programmes and corresponding qualification/designation holders.

Section B: Conversion and Transition Arrangement

1. Major Changes

The new CB programme structure is as follows:

Qualification	2017	2018
CB Postgraduate Diploma for Certified Banker <QF Level 6>	STREAM Credit Management - Bank Lending (Credit: 30) ¹ - Credit Risk Management (Credit: 30)	Treasury Management - Bank Asset and Liability Management (Credit: 30) - Treasury Markets and Operations (Credit: 30)
		Operations Management - Banking Law and Practice (Credit: 30) - Operational Risk Management (Credit: 30)
CB (Stage II) Professional Diploma for Certified Banker <QF Level 5>	- Business and People Management - Corporate Finance Services - Finance of International Trade - Management of Information Systems in Banking	- Business and People Management (Credit: 30) - Corporate Finance Services (Credit: 30) - Finance of International Trade (Credit: 30) - Technology Management and Innovation in Banking (Credit: 30) - Financing Planning (Credit: 30) ² - ECF on AML/CFT (Professional Level) ³
CB (Stage I) Advanced Diploma for Certified Banker <QF Level 4>	CORE - Banking Services and Professional Ethics ELECTIVE - ECF on AML / CFT (Core Level) - Fundamentals of Accounting and Law in Banking - Financial Systems and Risk Management	CORE - Fundamentals of Banking (Credit: 10) - Professional Ethics and Compliance (Credit: 10) ELECTIVE - Fundamentals of Accounting (Credit: 10) - Introduction to Banking Law (Credit: 10) - Risk Management (Credit: 10) - Fundamentals of Treasury Markets (Credit: 10) ⁴ - ECF on AML / CFT (Core Level) (Credit: 20) ⁵ - ECF on Cybersecurity (Core Level) (Credit: 20) ⁶

Remarks:

- Credits are benchmarked against the QF credits (please find details of the QF Credits on the HKQF website at <http://www.hkqf.gov.hk>).
- The ECF programme covers a wide range of areas, such as Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) and Retail Wealth Management (RWM). Details of the integration of other ECFs in the CB programme will be announced in due course.
- For exemption only. Holders of the Professional Certificate for ECF on AML/CFT or respective grandfathered certificate are eligible to apply for ECF on AML/CFT (professional Level) module exemption after passing the written assessment developed by the HKIB
- For exemption only. Holders of the Professional Certificate in Treasury Markets (i.e. ECF on Treasury Management (Core Level)) offered by LiPACE of OUHK are eligible to apply for "Fundamentals of Treasury Markets" module exemption.



5. *For exemption only. Holders of the Professional Certificate for ECF on AML/CFT or respective grandfathered certificate (plus submission of the form – Recognising Prior Learning Assessment Criteria for ECF on AML/CFT (Core Level)) are eligible to apply for module exemption.*
6. *For exemption only. Holders of the Professional Certificate for ECF on Cybersecurity offered by HKIB are eligible to apply for module exemption.*

2. General Conversion Guidelines

- (a) The ABP and AHKIB designations are replaced by the respective CB designations which will be shown on the HKIB Certified Individual Register (CI Register) on the HKIB website.
- (b) Designation holders will obtain a respective CB scroll if they have a valid HKIB membership.
- (c) A CB scroll will be issued according to the applicant's highest attained designation only. For example, AHKIB designation holders will receive the CB scroll but not the CB (Stage I) or CB (Stage II) scroll.
- (d) It is not necessary to return the ABP/AHKIB scrolls or pins.
- (e) For ABP/AHKIB/CB designation holders who are default members, they are required to reinstate their HKIB membership according to the prevailing policy, i.e. annual fee payment and CPD requirements. The conversion request from default members must be submitted to HKIB on or before 31 December 2020.
- (f) Studying similar subject areas for which candidates have already obtained a pass/exempted status will not be counted towards the completion requirements. Candidates should select their modules in different subject areas. For example, CB (Stage I) candidates who have passed the module "Financial Systems and Risk Management" and were awarded 20 QF credits in 2017 will not be awarded any additional credits for completing the similar module "Risk Management" in 2018.

3. Conversion and Transition Arrangement

- (a) The Conversion and Transition arrangement is ONLY applicable for the following types of ABP/AHKIB/CB candidates, qualification and designation holders.
 - **Candidates** who have not be awarded the "Advanced Diploma in Banking and Financial Services for ABP", "Professional Diploma in Banking and Financial Services" or "Postgraduate Diploma in Banking and Financial Services for AHKIB", or other HKIB equivalent qualifications by 31 December 2016 or any of the CB qualifications in 2017.
 - **Qualification holders** who have completed the "Advanced Diploma Program in Banking and Financial Services for ABP", "Professional Diploma Program in Banking and Financial Services" or "Postgraduate Diploma Program in Banking and Financial Services for AHKIB" , or other HKIB equivalent programmes by 31 December 2016 or any of the CB programmes in 2017 but have not received/applied for the designation.
 - **Designation holders** who have attained either the "Accredited Banking Practitioner (ABP)" or "Associate of The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (AHKIB)" by 31 December 2016.

(b) The Conversion arrangement is summarised in the following table:

ABP/AHKIB & CB Version	ABP/AHKIB & CB Status	Conversion Arrangement
Before 2013	Candidates	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply for HKIB's module exemption by submitting the "CB Module Exemption Application Form". A 50% ceiling of exemption would apply. 2. Based on the results of the exemption above, complete the remaining programme requirements <u>on or before 31 December 2020</u>. 3. Upon fulfillment of programme requirements, obtain the respective CB Diploma.
	Qualification holders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Upon fulfilment of the work experience required, submit the "CB Practical Experience Form" <u>on or before 31 December 2020</u>. Relevant designation holders will then be entitled to use the respective CB designation that will be published on the CI Register directly.
	Designation holders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Converted to the equivalent CB designation and published on the CI Register directly. 2. Relevant designation holders will be informed of the collection arrangement of the CB scroll for the highest attained qualification <u>from Q1 2018 onwards</u>.
2013 - 2017	Candidates	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Affected candidates will be informed of the conversion arrangement. 2. Based on the conversion arrangement, complete the remaining programme requirements <u>on or before 31 December 2020</u>. 3. Upon fulfilment of the programme requirements, obtain the respective CB Diploma. <p><u>Remark:</u> For the module conversion arrangement, please refer to Appendix 1.</p>
	Qualification holders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Qualifications awarded before 2017 are still valid. 2. Upon fulfilment of the work experience required, submit the "CB Practical Experience Form" <u>on or before 31 December 2020</u>. Relevant designation holders will then be entitled to use the respective CB designation that will be published on the CI Register directly.
	Designation holders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Converted to the equivalent CB designation and published on the CI Register directly. 2. Relevant designation holders will be informed of the collection arrangement of the CB scroll for the highest attained qualification <u>from Q1 2018 onwards</u>.

Appendix 1: Module Conversion Arrangement

For modules completed in 2013-2017

ABP / 2017 CB (Stage I) <i>Remark: for CB (Stage I), 20 core credits and 40 elective credits are required from 2017 onwards</i>	Credits awarded	2018 CB (Stage I): module can be converted <i>Remark: not eligible to enrol if conversion has been applied for</i>	Credits to be awarded
Banking Services and Professional Ethics	20 - core	Fundamentals of Banking	10 - core
		Professional Ethics and Compliance	10 - core
Fundamentals of Accounting and Law in Banking	20 - core <i>(elective in 2017)</i>	Fundamentals of Accounting	10 - elective
		Introduction to Banking Law	10 - elective
Financial System and Risk Management	20 - core <i>(elective in 2017)</i>	Risk Management	10 - elective
		Financial system <i>(no longer available)</i>	10 - elective
ECF on AML/CFT (Core)	20 - elective	ECF on AML/CFT (Core)	20 - elective
Professional Diploma / 2017 CB (Stage II) <i>Remark: for CB (Stage II), 60 elective credits are required</i>			
Corporate Finance Services	30 - elective	Corporate Finance Services	30 - elective
Finance of International Trade	30 - elective	Finance of International Trade	30 - elective
Business and People Management	30 - elective	Business and People Management	30 - elective
/	/	Technology Management and Innovation in Banking	30 - elective
/	/	Financial Planning	30 - elective
Banking Industry and Regulations in Mainland China	30 - elective	<i>Remark: Upon completion of the Professional Diploma on or before 31 Dec 2018, each module will be awarded 30 credits</i>	30 - elective
Financial Planning & Management	30 - elective		30 - elective
Management of Information Systems in Banking	30 - elective		30 - elective
AHKIB / 2017 CB <i>Remark: for CB, 60 elective credits of a stream are required</i>			
Bank Lending	30 - elective	Banking Lending	30 - elective
Credit Risk Management	30 - elective	Credit Risk Management	30 - elective
Bank Asset and Liability Management	30 - elective	Bank asset and Liability Management	30 - elective
Treasury Markets and Operations	30 - elective	Treasury Markets and Operations	30 - elective
Banking Law and Practice	30 - elective	Banking Law and Practice	30 - elective
Operational Risk Management	30 - elective	Operational Risk Management	30 - elective

*For modules completed in 2012 or before, please contact HKIB staff for details.