

[NEW] Greater Flexibility in ECF PQ Certification Renewal – Amendment Eases RP Declaration

Effective 15 December 2025, an amendment has been made to the Certification Renewal Requirements for existing Enhanced Competency Framework (ECF) Professional Qualification (PQ) Holders. At the time of certification renewal, existing ECF PQ Holders are no longer required to be Relevant Practitioners (RPs) (see **Notes**), provided that the respective Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements have been fulfilled and all other administrative requirements are in order.

In other words, your existing PQ remains valid even if you transition to another role. This amendment is intended to provide greater flexibility to ECF PQ Holders in your career journey and to encourage the broadening of skill sets.

Notes: A Relevant Practitioner (RP) is defined as an individual engaged by an Authorized Institution (AI) recognised by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) / any statutory body supervised by the Monetary Authority of Macao (AMCM). The initial certification requirements for new ECF PQ applicants remain unchanged: new applicants must be an RP at the time of their first certification.

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Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. I am currently an HKIB ECF PQ holder but no longer a RP. What is the impact on me after the easing of RP declaration?**

The easing of RP declaration allows you to maintain your awarded professional qualification(s) even if you change job roles. This means **you are not required to be a RP at the time of ECF PQ certification renewal**. To maintain your current professional qualification(s) status, simply meet the annual Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements and pay the certification renewal fee.

Please submit your certification renewal application via MyHKIB at <http://member.hkib.org/> on or before 31 December 2025.

- 2. I have completed an HKIB ECF programme (e.g. ECF-AML/CFT Core Level), but I have not attained first-time certification. If I am NOT currently working in an Authorized Institution, can I apply for the ECF PQ certification now?**

The ECF PQ certification application is applicable for Relevant Practitioners (RP) engaged by an Authorized Institution (AI) under the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) / any statutory body supervised by the Monetary Authority of Macao (AMCM) at the time of application.

The first-time certification requirements remain unchanged. **You are required to be a RP at the time of ECF PQ certification application.**

- 3. Is the easing of RP declaration applicable to all ten ECF programmes?**

Currently, HKIB supports banking industry capacity building and talent development as the administrator of the following eight ECF professional workstreams, including certification and subsequent certification renewal of the related professional qualifications.

- Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT)
- Cybersecurity

- Credit Risk Management (CRM)
- Compliance
- Fintech
- Green and Sustainable Finance (GSF)
- Operational Risk Management (ORM)
- Retail Wealth Management (RWM)

For enquiries regarding the Private Wealth Management and Treasury Management workstreams, please contact the respective administrators.

4. I am currently an HKIB Default Professional Member but hold an ECF PQ scroll. Can I apply for certification renewal to become an ECF PQ holder?

Yes, you can submit your reinstatement application via MyHKIB at <http://member.hkib.org/>. This includes declaring fulfilment of annual CPD requirements for the previous calendar year, and paying the reinstatement fee and certification renewal fee.

5. I am currently an HKIB Ordinary Member but hold an ECF PQ scroll. Can I apply for certification renewal to become an ECF PQ holder?

Yes, HKIB can make special arrangements for you. Please contact the HKIB Secretariat at (852) 2153 7800 or email us at cs@hkib.org.

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