

Affiliate Designation – CB Affiliate and ECF Affiliate

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who are eligible for the Affiliate Designation?

The following categories of individuals are eligible for the Affiliate Designation:

- Non-current Relevant Practitioners in the banking industry (as defined by the HKMA) including but not limited to:
 - *Full-time post-secondary students*
 - *Current banking practitioners in non-relevant job roles*
 - *Practitioners in non-banking fields*
- Current Relevant Practitioners in the banking industry (as defined by the HKMA) who do not possess sufficient relevant working experience for certification requirements.
- Professional Qualification (PQ) holders who have not accumulated the required CPD hours for their PQ(s) but have accumulated a minimum of 3 HKIB CPD hours in the preceding calendar year.

2. How can I apply for the Affiliate Designation?

Learners who have successfully completed any HKIB CB /ECF programme **will automatically be granted** the designation of “CB Affiliate” or “ECF Affiliate” respectively. No separate application is required.

For holders of HKIB Programme Diplomas or Certificates:

- **Awarded between January 2024 and July 2025:** The Affiliate Designation has been granted automatically by the end of August 2025.
- **Awarded before January 2024:** A formal application is required.

Please refer to the “[Certification Application Form for Affiliate Designation](#)” on HKIB website.

For Professional Qualification (PQ) holders who wish to maintain their affiliation with HKIB, an application must be submitted. Please contact our **Customer Experience Team**.

3. What is the fee for the Affiliate Designation?

Please refer to the latest [fee table](#) on HKIB website for detailed information.

4. Is renewal required for the Affiliate Designation?

Renewal requirements vary depending on your membership status:

- **Ordinary Members**

To renew your Affiliate Designation(s), you must:

- Accumulate a minimum of **3 HKIB CPD hours** in the preceding calendar year.
- Pay the **annual Affiliate certification renewal fee**.

***Note:** Full-time students are exempt from the certification fee until 31 December in their graduation year.*

- **Professional Members**

To maintain your designation(s), you must:

- Submit a **CPD declaration**.
- Pay the **annual PQ certification renewal fee**.

5. I have completed the HKIB CB/ECF programme and received the Programme Diploma/Certificate. When will I receive the Affiliate Scroll?

If you completed the HKIB CB/ECF programme and were awarded the Programme Diploma/Certificate between January 2024 and July 2025, you will receive the corresponding Affiliate Designation by the **end of August 2025**. You will also be **listed in the Registers of Certified Individuals (CI)** and **receive a digital Affiliate Scroll** by that time.

From **August 2025 onwards**, upon completion of the HKIB CB/ECF programme, you will receive the Affiliate Designation within **one month** of the completion of the Professional Qualification Programme Diploma/Certificate.

6. If I were a default Professional Member, would I be entitled to the Affiliate Designation?

If you were a default Professional Member, we strongly encourage you to reinstate your Professional Membership and existing Professional Qualification(s). To do so, please first settle a reinstatement fee of HKD2,000. Once your membership has been reinstated, your existing PQ(s) can be reverted by paying the PQ certification renewal fee and fulfilling the applicable CPD requirement. For more information, please contact our **Customer Experience Team**.

If you have not accumulated the required CPD hours for your PQ(s) but have accumulated a minimum of 3 HKIB CPD hours in the preceding calendar year, you may renew your membership as an **Ordinary Member**.

With a current and valid membership status, for any new diplomas or certificates obtained through completion of the training and examination of HKIB CB/ECF programmes, the corresponding Affiliate Designation for these programmes will be granted automatically.

7. As an Affiliate Designation holder, how can I (a) progress to become a Professional Qualification (PQ) holder for the first time, or (b) resume my PQ status if it has lapsed?

a) Progressing to become a PQ holder for the first time

Once learners fulfil the remaining requirements, such as obtaining Relevant Practitioner status or accumulating sufficient years of relevant work experience, they can immediately apply to become an HKIB CB/ECF Professional Qualification (PQ) holder. Please refer to the [Certification Application Form](#).

b) Resuming a lapsed PQ status

If you previously held PQ status and currently hold an Affiliate Designation, you must meet the **applicable CPD requirements** (i.e. the full annual CPD requirement for the preceding calendar year) for your PQ(s). Please contact the **Customer Experience Team** for assistance to resume your PQ status.

8. How are the CB/ECF Affiliate Designations recognised by regulators and banks?

Similar to HKIB CB/ECF Professional Qualifications, the Affiliate Designations are well recognised by both **regulators and banks**. These designations are awarded to encourage practitioners to continue their professional development through **reskilling or upskilling**, in line with regulatory guidance. This initiative supports the ongoing development of talent and contributes to the sustainable growth of the banking industry.

9. Do the required three HKIB CPD hours have to be earned through HKIB activities only?

No. As an Affiliate Designation holder, you can fulfil 3 HKIB CPD hours requirement through a variety of activities, not limited to those organised by HKIB. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to:

- CPD/CPT courses organised by other **recognised professional bodies**.
- **Academic studies**, such as local or overseas bachelor's or postgraduate degrees in disciplines relevant to the scope of qualified CPD activities.

For more details, please refer to **Section 3.1 of the [Overview of HKIB CPD Scheme](#)** available on HKIB website.

10. How can the public or HR professionals verify my status as an Affiliate Designation Holder?

The public and HR professionals can verify your Affiliate Designation through the following platforms:

- [Registers of Certified Individuals \(CI\)](#)
Display your Affiliate Designation (e.g. CB Affiliate or ECF Affiliate).
- [Digital Credential Verifier](#)
Provides more detailed information, including your Affiliate Scroll and the validity period of your Affiliate Designation.

11. I am currently a Student Member. If I am granted the Affiliate Designation and become an Ordinary Member, will I still be entitled to Student Member benefits?

Yes. If you are a full-time student, you will continue to enjoy **Ordinary Member** benefits while also remaining eligible for **Student Member** privileges until your graduation year. These include, but are not limited to, discounted rates for enrolling in HKIB PQP training and examinations. For full details, please refer to [Benefits & Services](#) on HKIB website.

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