EAA to launch a new pilot scheme of computer-based examination for the Salespersons Qualifying Examination

(24 April 2019) In order to provide another option and flexibility for candidates, the Estate Agents Authority (“EAA”) today announces the launch of a new pilot scheme of computer-based examination (“CBE”) for the Salespersons Qualifying Examination (“SQE”). Starting from July 2019, there will be one CBE for the SQE every month and the registration for the first CBE will open from early May.

Effective April 2019, all the EAA’s qualifying examinations will be administered by the Institute of Professional Education And Knowledge (“PEAK”) of the Vocational Training Council (“VTC”). Both the SQE and the Estate Agents Qualifying Examination (“EAQE”) will continue to be provided in paper-based format.

Ms Ruby Hon Yuen-ping, Chief Executive Officer of the EAA, said, “The EAA understands that nowadays some candidates might be more accustomed to computer usage. Hence, with a view to progressing with the times and providing more options and flexibility to candidates, the EAA decided to launch a new pilot scheme of CBE for the SQE to kick off the year. The EAA will review the response from candidates and the implementation of the pilot scheme before deciding the scale of CBE in the future.”

Under the pilot scheme, there will be one CBE for the SQE organised each month from July 2019 onwards and the first one will be held on 4 July 2019. All CBEs will be conducted at the VTC’s PEAK Examination Centre in Wanchai. The format, duration and examination fee of the computer-based SQE will be the same as that of the paper-based SQE.
However, the CBE will only accept online registration through the PEAK’s website. The registration of the first CBE will commence from 9 May 2019.

Interested candidates are advised to note that the CBE is only a pilot scheme and the number of candidates for each CBE will be limited to 100. Registration will close when the quota is full. The existing paper-based SQE, though not scheduled on the same date as the CBE, will remain for candidates’ registration as usual.

Passing the qualifying examination is one of the pre-requisites for obtaining a licence from the EAA. A candidate who passes the EAQE may apply for either an estate agent’s licence (individual) or a salesperson’s licence. A candidate who passes the SQE can only apply for a salesperson’s licence.

For the registration details of all qualifying examinations (including the CBE and paper-based ones), as well as the forthcoming examination schedules, key dates and examination syllabus, please visit the EAA’s website at www.eaa.org.hk

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