



**EAA announces results of
February 2008 qualifying examinations**

(20 March 2008) The Estate Agents Authority (EAA) today announced the results of the Estate Agents Qualifying Examination (EAQE) and Salespersons Qualifying Examination (SQE) held on 21 and 22 February 2008 respectively.

A total of 447 candidates sat the EAQE and 187 candidates passed, representing a pass rate of 41.8%. Among them, twelve candidates passed with commendation. EAA held four EAQEs in 2007, and the average pass rate was 39.3%.

Separately, 606 candidates sat the SQE and 15.3% or 93 candidates passed, with six candidates passing with commendation. In 2007, EAA held four SQEs and the average pass rate was 47%.

Dr Bob Chan, Chairman of the EAA Examination Panel, said, “EAA is pleased with the slight rise in the pass rate of the EAQE, but is disappointed with the significant drop in the SQE’s pass rate. Many candidates failed the SQE because they did poorly on the case study section. This reflects a lack of sufficient knowledge among candidates on practical issues such as land searches.”

Dr Chan continued, “Although the pass rate of this SQE is low, EAA will not adjust the level of future examinations. The purpose of having qualifying examinations is to assess the professional standard of licence applicants, so as to ensure newcomers to the estate agency trade possess the necessary knowledge and skills to cope with the demands of the job. EAA will continue to be a rigorous ‘gatekeeper’.”

Dr Chan advised aspiring estate agents to step up their preparation for the qualifying examinations. Candidates could read the six monographs (one of them is *Interpretation of a Land Search*) and the *Study Guide to Estate Agency Law and Practice* which were published by EAA to get a better understanding of the core legal and practical issues of the estate



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agency trade.

If candidates who took the February 2008 qualifying examinations have not received notification of their results by 31 March 2008, they should contact the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (Tel: 3628 8787).

EAA would like to remind candidates that passing the qualifying examination is only one of the requirements for obtaining an estate agent's or salesperson's licence. Candidates must also have completed Form 5 or its equivalent, reached a minimum age of 18 and be considered "fit and proper" to hold a licence.

The next EAQE and SQE will be held on 24 and 25 April 2008 respectively, but registration for the examinations, both in person and by post, has already been closed. Late registration is still available on 31 March and 1 April 2008, but a \$220 administration fee is payable.

For enquiries about the examinations, the public may call the EAA Professional Development hotline 2150 2468 or visit the EAA website (www.eaa.org.hk).

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