



**HIGHER NUMBER OF CANDIDATES FOR ESTATE
AGENTS QUALIFYING EXAMINATION
ESTATE AGENTS AUTHORITY INCREASES
EXAMINATION OPPORTUNITIES**

(7 September 2004) In the first six months of this year, 2,349 candidates took part in the Computerised Salesperson Qualifying Examination. This represents a significant rise of 46% from the second half of 2003. To cope with the needs of those who aspired to join the estate agency profession, the Estate Agents Authority (EAA) will increase the number of examination sessions. At present examinations are held every Monday to Friday in the afternoon. Extra morning sessions will be mounted, on Tuesday and Thursdays, from 13 July.

In addition, the tri-annual Estate Agents Qualifying Examination will be held on 22 July 2004. The EAA reminds those interested in registering but have missed the regular registration period in June that they may register with the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority on 20 and 21 July on payment of an administrative fee for late registration. Apart from the usual estate agency work, those who hold an estate agent's licence may also become the proprietor director or partner of an estate agency, or assume a supervisory role.

Over 500 candidates have already registered for the Estate Agents Qualifying Examination scheduled for 22 July. This represents the highest number in two years. The Chief Executive Officer of the EAA, Ms Sandy Chan, said “ continued increase in the number of candidates in both the Estate Agents and Salespersons Qualifying Examinations precisely reflects signs of recovery of the Hong Kong property market in the past year. Recently, the Legislative Council passed amendments to the Landlord and Tenant (Consolidation) Ordinance which will introduce free market dynamics to the residential leasing sector. This will no doubt provide a further boost to the estate agency industry.”

EAA figures also show that, in the last two years, almost half of the number of candidates in the Estate Agents Qualifying Examination have received education at tertiary level or above. Ms Sandy Chan believes that the rise in the education qualification of estate agency practitioners



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will improve the industry's professional standard and overall quality of service, thus enhancing consumer protection.

The EAA hotlines are 2111 2777 (general), 2111 3883 (licensing), website: <http://www.eaa.org.hk>.

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