



Registration for Estate Agents Qualifying Examinations

(30 August 2006) The Estate Agents Authority (EAA) today announced that a total of 985 candidates sat the Estate Agents Qualifying Examination (EAQE) on 20 July 2006 and 225 candidates passed, representing a pass rate of 22.8%. Three candidates passed the examination with commendation. (The pass rate for the last EAQE held in March 2006 was 18.5%.)

A total of 1,026 candidates sat the Salespersons Qualifying Examination (SQE) on the same day and 363 candidates passed, representing a pass rate of 35.4%. Six candidates passed the examination with commendation. (The average pass rate for the SQEs held in the first half of 2006 was 77.4%.)

The July SQE was the first using a new format. Compared with previous SQEs, this examination lasted longer (2 hours 30 minutes) and required candidates to pass both parts in order to qualify. (Part 1 consisted of 40 stand-alone questions. Part 2 consisted of 10 questions based on a case study.)

EAA Professional Development Committee Chairman, Mr Joseph Tsang said, “We have raised the level of the qualifying examination to ensure that new practitioners, including front-line salespersons, meet the professional standard and fulfil the many practical requirements of the job. Although the pass rate of the Salespersons Qualifying Examination has dropped, we consider the changes necessary to enhance protection for the public.”

Candidates who took the Qualifying Examination on 20 July but have not received notification of their results by the end of this week, are advised to contact the Hong Kong Examination and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) at 2328 0061.

The next EAQE and SQE will be held on 9 November 2006 (Thursday). Entry forms for the November Qualifying Examinations can be obtained at the following locations starting from 8 September:

1. Estate Agents Authority: 48/F, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen’s Road



East, Wanchai, Hong Kong

2. Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority

Wan Chai Office: 12/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road,
Wanchai, Hong Kong

San Po Kong Office: 3/F, 17 Tseuk Luk Street, San Po Kong,
Kowloon

HKEAA will accept registration by post from 18 September to 30 September and registration in person (San Po Kong office only) from 10 October to 16 October. The registration fees for the EAQE and SQE are \$600 and \$500 respectively.

The Examination Handbook, which contains the syllabi of both examinations, sample questions and answers, and information on registration procedures, is available as a download through the EAA website, www.eaa.org.hk.

For registration enquiries, please call the HKEAA hotline at 2328 0061 or visit its website, www.hkeaa.edu.hk. For other enquiries about the examinations, please call the EAA Professional Development hotline at 2150 2468 or visit the EAA website.

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. The other licensing conditions include completion of Form 5 or its equivalent and being aged 18 or above and considered "fit and proper" to hold a licence.

Starting from next year (2007), EAQEs and SQEs will be held four times a year. The two examinations will be held in the same month (March, June, September and December) but on different dates to allow those interested in joining the estate agency trade to take both the EAQE and SQE at around the same time.

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