



Increase of qualifying examinations fees

(28 February 2011) The Estate Agents Authority (EAA) held its Board meeting today and endorsed the increase of the examination fees for qualifying examinations. With effect from June 2011, the examination fee for the Estate Agents Qualifying Examination will be increased from \$600 to \$700, and that for the Salespersons Qualifying Examination from \$400 to \$450.

The increase of the examination fees is attributable to the rising costs of organising examinations. The Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority, which was appointed to administer the examinations on behalf of the EAA, has increased its service fees a number of times over the years. Furthermore, to cope with the increasing number of examination candidates, more resources were deployed to organising examinations more frequently, thus incurring extra administrative cost on the part of the EAA. After considering the recommendations of the Practice and Examination Committee, the EAA Board meeting today approved the increase of examination fees with effect from June 2011.

EAA Board Chairman Ms Vivien Chan said, “As a responsible regulator, we have to maintain a healthy financial position in order to discharge our duties effectively. Hence, we have to ensure that the cost of organising and running qualifying examinations can be recovered from the income generated from conducting the qualifying examinations.”

She added that the examination fees have not been increased since the first examination took place in 1999. Given the rising costs of administering examinations, there is a pressing need for the EAA to raise the examinations fees.



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The EAA organises qualifying examinations to ensure that only qualified new entrants can enter the estate agency trade. The Estate Agents Qualifying Examination and the Salespersons Qualifying Examination are held four times and six times a year respectively.

The EAA Board meeting today also discussed and endorsed other administrative matters, including budget and publicity plan for the year 2011-2012. It also received progress reports from various EAA Committees and the Administration.

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