

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION SCHEME (CPAS)**

### **Application Submission**

- Q: How long does it take to evaluate the application?  
A: The duration from application evaluation to recommendation for accreditation will take approximately 2 to 3 months.
- Q: How long is the interview process?  
A: The interview will take about an hour. The interview comprises of a presentation by candidate and a panel discussion with the Assessors.

### **Application Criteria/Qualifications**

- Q: For CPAS Tier A-star, is the requirement of \$150m project experience based on one project or multiple projects?  
A: The requirement for CPAS Tier A-Star is based on a single project with minimum value of S\$150 million, in the capacity of a Project Manager and above.
- Q: For the CPAS Tier C, the total project value of \$10m can be accumulated over how many years?  
A: There is no time limit set for this basic tier. However, it is preferred that the \$10m project experience be accumulated over a 3-to-5-year duration.
- Q: If you do not register for CPAS, will it mean that we will not be able to continue as a PM in future? What is the benefit of being accredited by SCAL CPAS?  
A: The CPAS is an accreditation scheme to provide recognition to professionals working as Project Managers (PM) or in similar capacities. The scheme is not legally binding and is voluntary in nature. If you do not register under the scheme, you are still able to continue working as a PM. However, do take note that GPEs/developers will be moving towards requiring accreditation in procurement in the future. Hence, having CPAS accreditation will be beneficial to a PM in the long run.
- Q: For the Degree/Diploma holder, do we need it to be accredited by the PE/BCA board?  
A: The CPAS Board accepts all diplomas and degrees that are applicable and relevant to the Built Environment. Accreditation with the P.E./BCA will be an added bonus, preferably recognised by P.E / BCA . For a degree not recognised by the PE board, applications will be subject to evaluation on case by case basis.
- Q: If the tender amount is S\$145 million, under which category does it come under CPAS?  
A: That will fall under the CPAS A category.

- Q: If under the same project, can both the project manager and project director use the same project to apply?
- A: Yes, both can apply, with each stating what their roles and responsibilities are for the project, and how they carried out the project in their individual capacities.
- Q: CPAS looks like it has equal weightage for diploma holders as compared with degree holders. Why not can give more weightage to master's degree holders?
- A: The weightage given is based on how the applicant complies with the 7 competency standards and not on the academic qualifications as stated. Academic qualifications only dictates the Tier in which the applicant is applying for, in addition to the project sum. The qualifications will be the pre-requisite, and will be taken into consideration when assessing the candidate.
- Q: How do we progress through the Tiers? Do we need a fresh application each time?
- A: Yes, applicants can upgrade from one level to another, if they have acquired sufficient experience as they progress through their careers. Each application beyond the Tier is a fresh application.
- Q: How long is the validity of the accreditation?
- A: The accreditation is valid for a year from date of issue. Candidates are required to maintain their CPD requirements to maintain their accreditation status.
- Q: Must the Project must be local or overseas?
- A: The project can be either local or overseas, or a combination of both. The project costs cited must be stated both in the overseas currency and Singapore currency equivalent. The project submission should have the endorsement of the overseas project director or a person of similar stature to validate the submission made by the applicant, as stated in the CPAS Application Form.
- Q: What if you don't have enough years of experience (<12yrs), but you are already handling an 'A star' grade project? What grade do you apply for?
- A: The applicant should peg his submission to the Tier that he complies with in terms of the project cost and the years of experience worked in the capacity of a project manager or of similar nature. If in doubt, he can always seek advice from the SCAL CPAS Secretariat when applying. The application will be examined on case by case basis and on merit.
- Q: How do you define "completed"? Do we need to participate a particular project from the beginning to completion?
- A: There are instances where an individual may have joined midway in the project. The deciding consideration is that the individual should have been present and seen through till the end of the project, i.e., project completion. (TOP or CSC) and/or involved in a substantive part of the project to its completion.