

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

### **Application Submission**

- Q1: How long does it take to evaluate the application?
- A1: The duration from application submission to accreditation will take approximately 2 months.
- Q2: How long is the interview process?
- A2: Each interviewee will be allocated an hour for the interview. The interview comprises a ½ hour presentation by the candidate followed by a Q&A discussion with the Assessor Panel.

### **Application Criteria/Qualifications**

- Q3: For CPAS Tier A-star, is the requirement of \$150m project experience based on one project or multiple projects?
- A3: The requirement for CPAS Tier A-Star is based on a single project with a minimum value of S\$150 million, in the capacity of a Project Manager and above. The involvement in the project must be at least 80%, in terms of the contract period.
- Q4: For CPAS Tier C, the total project value of \$10m can be accumulated over how many years?
- A4: There is no time limit set for this entry-level tier.
- Q5: What is the benefit of being accredited by SCAL CPAS?
- A5: CPAS is an accreditation scheme to provide recognition to professionals working as Project Managers (PM) or in similar capacities. If you do not register under the scheme, you are able to continue working as a PM at this juncture. You might want to 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 near future.
- Q6: For Degree/Diploma holder, do we need it to be accredited by the PE/BCA board?
- A6: 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 a bonus. Degree or diploma holders not recognised by the PE board can still apply for the

CPAS. The assessment will be contingent upon meeting the requirements of the seven competencies and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Q7: If under the same project, can both the project manager and project director use the same project to apply?

A7: 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.

Q8: CPAS looks like it has equal weightage for diploma holders as compared with degree holders. Why not give more weightage to master's degree holders?

A8: The weightage given is based on how the applicant demonstrates the 7 competencies and not solely on academic qualifications. Academic qualifications determine only the Tier of application, alongside the project sum. The qualifications (including a master's degree) will be the prerequisite and will be taken into consideration when assessing the candidate.

Q9: How do we progress through the Tiers? Do we need a fresh application each time?

A9: Applicants can upgrade from one level to another if they have fulfilled the next level criteria and acquired sufficient experience as they progress through their careers.. Each application for a higher Tier is treated as a new application, as every Tier corresponds to projects of differing value and complexity.

Q10: How long is the validity of the accreditation?

A10: Once granted, the accreditation remains valid indefinitely. However, it is subject to an annual renewal process commencing one year from the date of issue. Candidates are required to maintain their CPD requirements for renewal in order to maintain their accreditation status.

Q11: Does the cited Project need to be based locally or overseas?

A11: 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 the 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.

Q12: What if you don't have enough years of experience (< 12 years), but you are already handling an 'A star' grade project? What grade do you apply for?

A12: 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 a similar nature. If in doubt, he can always seek advice from the SCAL Secretariat for guidance. Such applications will be assessed on their individual merits and considered on a case-by-case basis.

Q13: How do you define "completed"? Do we need to participate in a particular project from the beginning to completion?

A13: There are instances where an individual may have joined midway through the project. The key consideration is that the individual must have been involved through to project completion (TOP or CSC), and/or have contributed substantially (i.e. at least 80%) of the project up to its completion.

*Updated as of September 2025*