

Chartered Governance Qualifying Programme FAQs

Why the Institute has to substitute the IQS by the Chartered Governance Qualifying Programme (CGQP)? What are the benefits of adopting the CGQP in comparison with the IQS?

In view of the increased business focus on governance and compliance and increasingly regulated and risk-conscious business environment, the Chartered Secretary profession has evolved to take up more responsibilities in governance roles. Thus, The Chartered Governance Institute and HKICS have concluded to appeal to a wider audience both worldwide and in Hong Kong/China and launched a Qualifying Programme for the dual qualification of Chartered Secretary and Chartered Governance Professional.

The Chartered Governance Qualifying Programme (CGQP) consists of two parts covering seven modules, of which six are compulsory and the seventh is chosen from two electives. The CGQP syllabus streamlines accounting and finance subjects and strengthens content in risk management, compliance, strategy management and boardroom dynamics.

Members of The Chartered Governance Institute and HKICS will enjoy a broader career path in compliance, risk and governance arena to take up roles as diverse as company secretary, risk manager, compliance officer, director and governance consultant, meeting the demand for well-trained, good governance professionals in listed companies, public sectors and non-profit organisations.

If I have not completed all IQS examinations following the release of IQS December 2019 examination results, do I need to sit for the examinations of all modules of the CGQP again?

If students have not yet completed the IQS examinations by the December 2019 diet, they are not required to sit for the examination of all subjects under CGQP. Students are only required to complete the outstanding subject(s) transferred from IQS to CGQP from January 2020 onwards. Please refer to the transition arrangement from the existing IQS to CGQP for information.

I have already exempted four subjects including, Strategic and Operation Management, Hong Kong Financial Accounting, Hong Kong Taxation and Corporate Financial Management. What should I do to complete CGQP in 2020?

To complete CGQP in 2020 or thereafter you only have to complete the remaining three subjects Hong Kong Company Law, Corporate Governance and Corporate Secretaryship and Compliance. Please refer to the transition arrangement from the existing IQS to CGQP for information.

I have passed two subjects including Strategic and Operation Management and Hong Kong Financial Accounting. I don't think I can complete IQS by December 2019, what should I do?

For those IQS subjects that you have already passed or been exempted, you are not required to take the corresponding subjects under CGQP. Students with any outstanding IQS subject(s) will need to take the corresponding subject(s) transferred to CGQP from 2020 onwards. Please refer to transition arrangement from the existing IQS to CGQP for information.

I have passed six subjects under the IQS and have two subjects outstanding – Hong Kong Corporate Law and Hong Kong Taxation. What should I do?

Students with any outstanding IQS subject(s) will need to take the corresponding subject(s) under the CGQP from 2020 onwards. When you transit into the CGQP, you will only be required to complete the Hong Kong Company Law module. Please refer to the transition arrangement from the existing IQS to CGQP for information.

I have passed five subjects in the IQS and have three subjects outstanding – Hong Kong Financial Accounting, Hong Kong Taxation and Corporate Administration. What should I do?

Students with any outstanding IQS subject(s) will need to take the corresponding subject(s) under the CGQP from 2020 onwards. Under CGQP framework, Hong Kong Taxation and Boardroom Dynamics are elective subjects. Please refer to the transition arrangement from the existing IQS to CGQP for information.

I have three subjects outstanding – Hong Kong Financial Accounting, Hong Kong Taxation and Corporate Financial Management. What examinations do I have to take under CGQP in 2020?

Under CGQP framework, Hong Kong Taxation and Boardroom Dynamics are elective subjects. As you have passed Corporate Administration, you are not required to sit for Hong Kong Taxation under CGQP framework. Please refer to the transition arrangement from the existing IQS to CGQP for information for the other subjects you must take in 2020 and onwards.

Is Corporate Administration a replicate for the Boardroom Dynamics exam?

No, Boardroom Dynamics is an entirely new module. It will provide an advanced knowledge and understanding of the skills needed to support boardroom performance. Boardroom Dynamics explores the behavioural, cultural and psychological aspects of boardroom practice that are required to be an effective modern company secretary or governance professional.

Will there be any difference in the level of difficulties between IQS and CGQP examinations?

Both IQS and CGQP examinations are set to benchmark the Master level competence.

Will there be any difference to the eligibility of studentship admission and exemption between the IQS and the CGQP?

Yes. There are five categories of recognised qualifications of entry to HKICS studentship and holders of relevant recognised university degrees and/or professional qualifications will be eligible for exemption(s) upon assessment by the Institute. For details, please click [here](#).

Are there any sample questions and answer papers for students' reference?

The Institute will announce details of the CGQP study materials and pilot papers when these are ready.

Will the changes in syllabus affect the Collaborative Master Programmes?

Not in the short term. The universities will need to update their programmes within a set timeframe to map against the CGQP curriculum and collaboration requirements.

Do students of the Collaborative Master Programmes who graduate in 2020 have to sit for additional examinations under the CGQP in order to be qualified as a graduate of the Institute?

Collaborative Master Programme graduates of 2020 do not have to sit for additional examinations under the CGQP. They should follow the Institute's policies and procedures for application for full exemptions under the IQS (i.e. eight subjects) in order to become Graduate of the Institute. After that, they may apply for election as Associate of the Institute. Subject to other terms and conditions.

What would happen if a student from a Collaborative Master Programme failed to complete the Programme within the stipulated time, say within 24 months?

If Collaborative Master Programme student cannot complete the Programme within the stipulated time, say within 24 months, his/her application for exemption will be subject to review and approval by the Institute. He/she may have to sit for some modules of the Institute's qualifying examinations (i.e. CGQP from January 2020 onwards). All applications for exemption are reviewed by the Institute on an individual basis.

December 2019