

Assessor FAQ

Transition to In-person Assessment

1. Who decided to resume in-person interviews?

The [Qualification and Assessments Committee](#) (QAC)-approved policy determines that regions must meet specific criteria to return to in-person assessments. This decision was taken alongside interim measures arising from the [Entry and Assessment Review](#) programme and will be used to trial in-person identity checks as part of the assessment process. Hong Kong meets these criteria and has been identified as a suitable region to commence this pilot.

2. Will other regions resume in-person interviews?

Regions are assessed on a case-by-case basis against set criteria that support the objectives of any new measures. The Hong Kong region is trialling a process for in-person identity checks. We will carefully review the results of the pilot in HK to understand if this change will be applicable to any other regions in future.

3. Why are in-person interviews resuming in Hong Kong in October instead of July?

A change of this scale requires significant logistical preparation - finding venues, re-training all assessors, and ensuring appropriate support is in place for candidates.

4. If I prefer online assessments, will I have the option to choose or conduct hybrid interviews?

Only in-person assessments will be offered in Hong Kong to support the identity checks that will take place in this pilot. Candidates who have been approved for a reasonable adjustment as per the [reasonable adjustment policy](#) may be interviewed in a different format. If any of the candidates, you are assessing have a reasonable adjustment agreed then you will be notified in advance by the Assessment Delivery Team.

5. Did you consider a hybrid approach to interviews?

Yes, various options were considered. However, only in-person assessments will be conducted in Hong Kong to support the identity checking trial.

6. If I don't wish to participate in face-to-face assessments, can I still assess?

If you do not wish to participate in in-person assessments, you will not be able to participate in the final assessment interviews in Hong Kong. However, you can still conduct APC Preliminary reviews and Associate RICS (AssocRICS) written assessments, if you have been trained in these assessments.

7. Why are the refresher sessions mandatory?

Many assessors in Hong Kong have never participated in in-person interviews, and refresher training sessions will ensure they are up to date with the requirements.

8. Can I assess if I do not attend a refresher session?

Assessors must attend a refresher training session to participate in final assessment interviews. However, you may still participate in APC Preliminary and AssocRICS written assessments.

9. How long will the refresher sessions last?

Each refresher training session will last approximately 2 hours and can be counted toward your annual CPD activities.

10. Do I need to attend all refresher sessions?

Only one refresher training session is required. You can select the one that best fits your schedule.

11. When will the refresher sessions be held?

We anticipate offering at least 8 sessions over a 3-month period — further details will be available in May.

12. Will any refresher sessions be held online?

No. The interactive nature of the refresher sessions requires in-person attendance.

13. I'm too busy to attend a refresher session. What should I do?

You must attend one session. If you cannot attend any of the sessions, you may be temporarily removed from the assessor pool until you complete the refresher training.

14. Where will the interviews be held?

Interviews will be held at Renaissance Harbour View Hotel Hong Kong in Wan Chai.

15. Does the return to in-person assessments mean other changes to the process?

No, the processes for declaring assessor availability, pre-interview notifications and accessing the candidates' submissions remain the same.

16. What visual aids can candidates use for their presentation?

Candidates are permitted to use their own laptop for presentation, along with note/index cards. They are expected to have their device on full charge prior to entering the interview room.

Candidates can opt to bring print out of their presentation slides for the panel. Flipboards for candidates are available in each interview room; they may bring own their flipcharts. Additionally, candidates are permitted to use note/index cards during presentation.

Mobile phones are not permitted for both presentation and presenter notes.