

Introduction to APEL.Q

The Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) and the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA), in their efforts to support lifelong learning and achieve the status of a high-income economy and developed nation, have introduced the provision of Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL). This initiative enables individuals with experiential learning to gain access to tertiary education.

APEL for Award of Academic Qualifications (APEL.Q) is defined as the "award of academic qualification for prior experiential learning towards a fully accredited programme" in the Guidelines to Good Practices: Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning for Academic Qualification APEL.Q (GGP APEL.Q). This quick guide, developed by MQA, is intended for Higher Education Providers (HEIs), learners, and stakeholders.

Prior Experiential Learning assessment refers to a formal process that evaluates an individual's previously acquired knowledge, skills, competencies, and expertise, regardless of how they were obtained. This assessment acknowledges learning from various sources, including (1) Formal Learning, (2) Informal Learning and (3) Non-Formal Learning.

Formal Learning

Structured education or training received through accredited institutions, such as universities, colleges, or professional certification programmes.

Informal Learning

Unstructured learning gained through work experience, self-study, or daily life activities without formal certification.

Non-Formal Learning

Learning acquired through structured programmes outside the formal education system, such as workshops, short courses, vocational training, or industry-based learning.

APEL.Q Programme Entry Requirements

Both Malaysian and Non-Malaysian citizens are allowed.*

*Terms and Conditions Apply.

Minimum years of experience required according to the Malaysian Qualifications Framework (MQF) levels:

MQF Level	Academic Sector	Minimum years of working experience in the relevant field (Years)
7	Master's Degree	20

Note: Learners, who do not meet the minimum years of working experience stated above but with exceptional prior experiential learning, can be considered on a case-by-case basis by the highest academic body of the HEI (e.g., Senate).

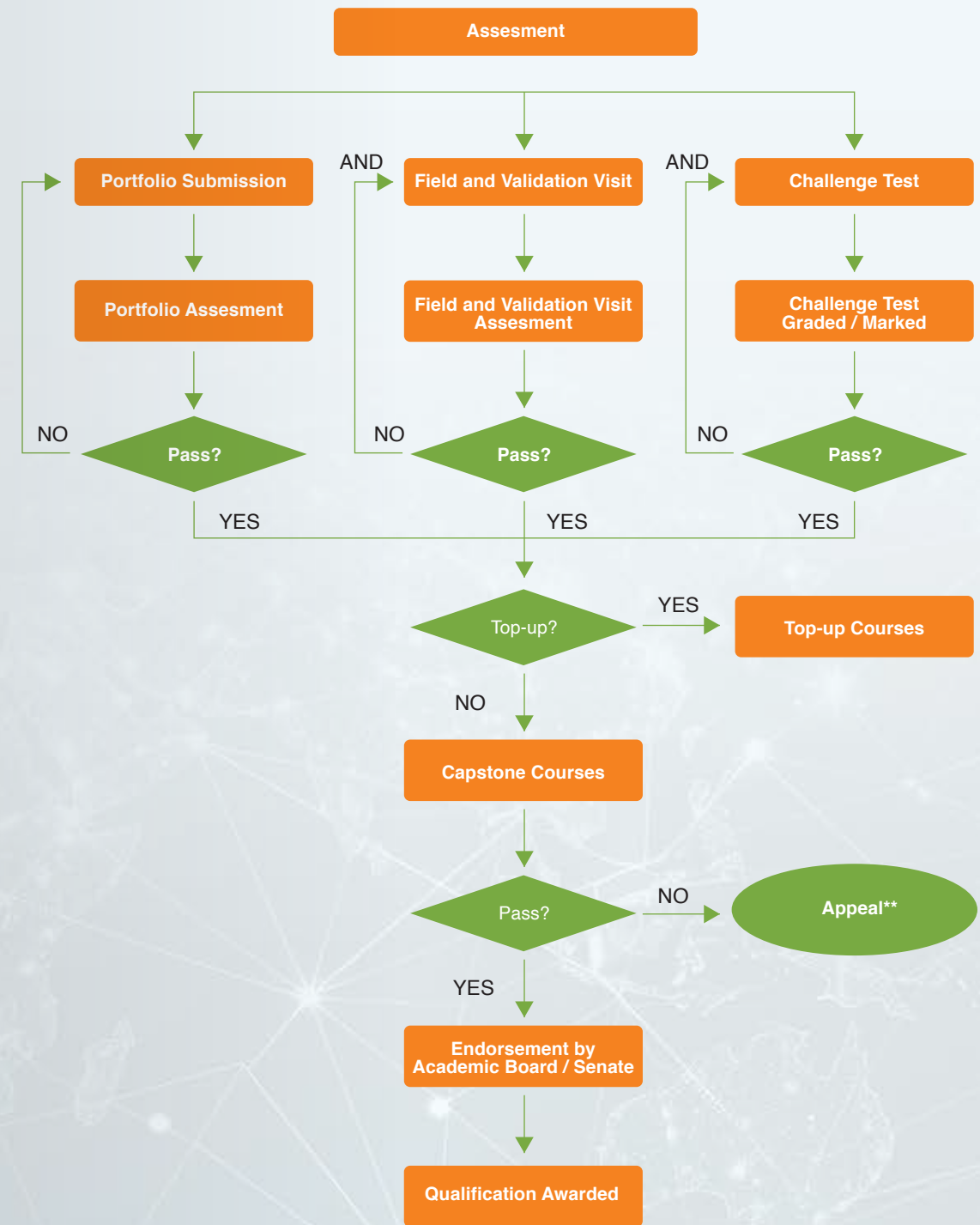
* Non-Malaysians must be advised to seek information on the recognition of qualifications obtained via APEL.Q in their home countries.

APEL.Q Assessment Weightages

The APEL.Q assessment instruments carry different weights that contribute to the overall assessment. The weightage of each assessment instrument is stated in the following table:

No	Assessment Instruments	Weightage (%)
1	Portfolio	20
2	Field and Validation Visit	20
3	Challenge Test	30
4	Capstone Course(s) (Inclusive of comprehensive oral examination)	30

APEL.Q Assessment Overall Procedure



** Refer to Appeal for Re-evaluation and Resit for further information

Master of Business Administration with APEL.Q

(R2/340/7/0205) (08/27) (MQA/FA2061)

The MBA with APEL.Q Pathway is designed to recognise and validate the extensive professional experience of seasoned professionals, offering a streamlined admission process. This flexible programme allows learners to effectively balance their academic pursuits with professional and personal commitments while accelerating their MBA journey by leveraging prior knowledge and expertise.

The programme is specifically tailored for senior professionals with a minimum of 20 years of cumulative experience, including managerial or supervisory roles, supported by comprehensive documentation of their professional achievements. As part of the assessment process, learners will undergo four key evaluation components: (1) Portfolio submission, (2) Field and Validation Visit (FVV), (3) Challenge Test, and (4) Capstone Courses, ensuring a rigorous and holistic evaluation of their competencies.

Upon successful completion, graduates earn a globally recognised MBA, equipping them with advanced leadership skills and a deeper understanding of strategic business practices. Additionally, they gain access to an extensive professional network, transforming their industry experience into a formally recognised qualification that enhances career advancement opportunities.

Programme Educational Objectives

This programme will empower you with essential business research skills and knowledge. You will develop a strong foundation for tackling complex challenges and contributing meaningfully to your field.



Apply the mastery of theoretical and practical knowledge in business.



Employ comprehensive managerial and entrepreneurial skills to lead effectively and responsibly in different organisations.



Employ a broad range of digital applications and analytical techniques competently to support business functions.



Perform teamwork, interpersonal communication skills, creativity, and innovation skills.



Develop learning for continuous development.



Apply a range of research skills for complex business and management issues.

Knowledge Outcomes

The Knowledge Outcomes for APEL.Q at the Master's Level ensure that learners develop advanced expertise, critical thinking abilities, and applied knowledge relevant to their field of study. These outcomes align with the Malaysian Qualifications Framework (MQF) and focus on equipping professionals with the skills necessary to contribute effectively to their industries and broader society:

- Development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills, where learners must be able to evaluate and synthesise information from multiple sources.
- Analysing data, identifying trends, and formulating strategic insights that support effective decision-making.
- Research and analytical competence, where learners are required to conduct independent research, apply appropriate methodologies, and contribute meaningful insights to their respective fields.
- Apply knowledge effectively, demonstrating strategic thinking, leadership, and decision-making in organisational settings.
- Bridge the gap between theory and practice by implementing business strategies that align with industry best practices.
- Ethical and social responsibility that are integral to master's-level education, ensuring that learners consider ethical implications, corporate governance, and sustainability when making professional decisions.

Programme Structure

INTAKES & DURATION OF STUDY

Flexible

PROGRAMME DELIVERY

Top-up Courses and Consultation

ASSESSMENT

Portfolio submission
Field and Validation Visit (FVV)
Challenge Test & Capstone Course

