香港學術及職業資歷評審局
Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of
Academic & Vocational Qualifications

SUMMARY ACCREDITATION REPORT

HOSPITAL AUTHORITY ACADEMY

INITIAL EVALUATION AND LEARNING PROGRAMME ACCREDITATION

HIGHER DIPLOMA IN NURSING (PRE-ENROLMENT)

JANUARY 2026

1. TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.1 Based on the Service Agreement (No.: VA1956), the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), in the capacity of the Accreditation Authority as provided for under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (Cap 592) (AAVQO), was commissioned by Hospital Authority Academy ("Operator"), a department of the Hospital Authority, to conduct an Initial Evaluation and Learning Programme Accreditation Exercise with the following Terms of Reference:

(a) To conduct an accreditation test as provided for in AAVQO to determine whether the Operator meets the stated objectives and is competent to operate learning programmes that meet the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF/QF) Level 6 standard, and can be granted Initial Evaluation Status at QF Level 6; and

(b) To conduct an accreditation test as provided for in AAVQO to determine whether the following programme of the Operator meets the stated objectives and QF Level 4 standard and can be offered as an accredited programme:

(i) Higher Diploma in Nursing (Pre-Enrolment); and

(c) To issue to the Operator accreditation report setting out the results of the determination in relation to (a) and (b) by HKCAAVQ.

1.2 The accreditation exercise was conducted according to the relevant accreditation guidelines referred to in the Service Agreement. The Education Bureau's *"Updated Revised Common Descriptors for Associate Degree and Higher Diploma Programmes (Effective since the 2024/25 academic year)"* was also a guiding document used by the Panel and the Operator in conducting this exercise for the Higher Diploma programme. A site visit took place on 9 and 10 October 2025.

2. HKCAAVQ'S DETERMINATION

Initial Evaluation

2.1 HKCAAVQ has determined that the Operator is competent to achieve its stated objectives and to operate learning programmes meeting QF standards at Levels 1 to 6, and can be granted Initial Evaluation (IE) status at QF Level 6 with a validity period of two years.

2.2 **Validity Period**

2.2.1 The validity period will commence on the date specified below.

2.2.2 Within the two-year validity period for IE, the Operator must have at least one programme successfully accredited. If the Operator does not have a current accredited programme on the Qualifications Register (QR) at the end of the two-year validity period of their IE, the Operator will need to apply for an extension of their IE status at least three months before the validity period expires. An extension of up to 2 years may be granted. Only one extension of IE status will normally be allowed. If the Operator continues to gain successful Learning Programme Accreditation (LPA), their IE status will remain valid.

2.3 The determinations on the Initial Evaluation are specified as follows:

Name of Operator	Hospital Authority Academy 醫院管理局學院
Address of Operator	Hospital Authority Academy Block M, Kowloon Hospital, 147A Argyle Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong 香港九龍亞皆老街 147 號 A 九龍醫院 M 座 醫院管理局學院
Highest QF Level of programme(s) which the Operator can operate upon successful learning programme accreditation	Level 6
Start date of 2-year validity period of Initial Evaluation (IE) accreditation status	1 February 2026
Scope of IE Accreditation Status	For operating local non-degree programmes in Hong Kong

Learning Programme Accreditation

Higher Diploma in Nursing (Pre-Enrolment)

2.4 HKCAAVQ has determined that, subject to the compliance with all restrictions set out in 2.7, the Higher Diploma in Nursing (Pre-Enrolment) meets the stated objectives and QF standard at Level 4, and can be offered as an accredited programme with a validity period from 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2030.

2.5 **Validity Period**

2.5.1 The validity period will commence on the date specified below.

2.6 The determinations on the Learning Programme Accreditation are specified as follows:

Name of Operator(s)	Hospital Authority Academy 醫院管理局學院
Name of Award Granting Body	Hospital Authority 醫院管理局
Title of Learning Programme	Higher Diploma in Nursing (Pre-Enrolment) 護理學高級文憑（登記前）
Title of Qualification(s) (Exit Award(s))	Higher Diploma in Nursing (Pre-Enrolment) 護理學高級文憑（登記前）
Primary Area of Study and Training	Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences
Sub-area (Primary Area of Study and Training)	Nursing
Other Area of Study and Training	Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences
Sub-area (Other Area of Study and Training)	Health Care
Industry	Not applicable
Branch	Not applicable
QF Level	Level 4
QF Credits	452
Mode(s) of Delivery and Programme Length	Full-time, 104 weeks 4,519 notional learning hours (including 2,485 contact hours)

Intermediate Exit Award(s)	Not applicable
Validity Period	1 October 2026 to 30 September 2030
Number of Enrolment(s)	1 enrolment per year
Maximum Number of New Students	Maximum of 100 learners per year
Specification of Competency Standards-based Programme	☐ Yes ☑ No
Specification of Generic Competencies-based Programme	☐ Yes ☑ No
Vocational Qualifications Pathway Programme	☐ Yes ☑ No
Notes to be indicated on the QR	This programme includes clinical practicum for 192 QF credits to be conducted in 44 weeks. 此課程包括 44 星期的實習，佔 192 資歷學分。
Address of Teaching/ Training Venue(s)	School of General Nursing, Grantham Hospital, No. 125 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong 香港香港仔黃竹坑道 125 號葛量洪醫院護士學校

2.7 **Restriction**

The Operator is expected to fulfill and comply with all restriction during the validity period as stipulated in the accreditation report.

Restriction	**Date of Fulfilment**
<u>Restriction</u> The Operator is to provide an approval document from the Nursing Council of Hong Kong (NCHK) to demonstrate that the programme has been accredited for the purpose of enrolment under the Nurses Registration Ordinance (Cap 164).	On-going

The Operator is to submit relevant evidence to HKCAAVQ on the fulfilment of the restriction upon receiving approval from the NCHK.	

2.8 HKCAAVQ will subsequently satisfy itself whether the Operator remains competent to achieve the relevant objectives and the Programme continues to meet the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator by reference to, amongst other things, the Operator's fulfilment of any conditions and compliance with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report. For the avoidance of doubt, maintenance of accreditation status is subject to fulfilment of any condition and compliance with any restriction stipulated in this Accreditation Report. During the validity period, HKCAAVQ may request the Operator to provide evidence, such as admission related information, to demonstrate that the Operator and the Programme continue to comply with the determinations and meet the relevant accreditation standards.

3. INTRODUCTION

3.1 The Hospital Authority Academy (HAA/the Operator) was established by the Hospital Authority (HA) in 2023. HA is a statutory body established under the Hospital Authority Ordinance, responsible for managing Hong Kong's public hospitals services. Currently, HA manages 43 hospitals and institutions, 49 Specialist Out-patient Clinics, and 75 Family Medicine Clinics, with a workforce over 90,000.

3.2 To support staff retention and attract new talents for the manpower sustainability of HA, HAA was established to consolidate existing corporate training institutes and to enhance the credentialing of its training programmes. By standardising the governance structure, optimising manpower and training resources, and sharing best practices, these efforts aim to strengthen the quality assurance framework for enhanced overall management, and ultimately provide high-quality training to sustain competent workforce for HA.

4. PROGRAMME DETAILS

The following is the programme information provided by the Operator.

4.1 Programme Objectives

The programme leads to the award of a holder of "Higher Diploma in Nursing (Pre-Enrolment)" and entitles the holder to apply for enrolment as an Enrolled Nurse (General) under the Nursing Council of Hong Kong (NCHK). It aims to prepare students to be competent, caring, and professional nurses who:

- understand the holistic nature of health and client-oriented healthcare services;
- apply the principles of nursing and caring in a variety of health care settings;
- demonstrate competency and proficiency in performing client care management in primary, secondary and tertiary levels.

4.2 Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Programme, learners should be able to:

PILO 1. Analyse client needs to deliver holistic client-centred care that uphold professional, legal and ethical nursing practice;

PILO 2. Demonstrate competency in recognising, restoring, and promoting client health with care and empathy, collaborating with clients, caregivers, the healthcare team, and the community across various settings;

PILO 3. Apply effective communication, reflective, and analytical skills with care and empathy in decision making processes; and

PILO 4. Develop all rounded attributes in personal and professional competencies including personal integrity, accountability, adaptability and appreciation for research finding and evidence-based practice in the nursing profession.

4.3 Programme Structure

Subject	QF Credits
Life Sciences I	452
Human Growth and Development, Psychology & Sociology	
Foundations of Nursing Therapeutics I	
Concepts of Health & Health Care	
Fundamental Concepts of Nursing	
Nursing Therapeutics I	
Field Study I	
Life Sciences II	
Microbiology & Pharmacology	
Communication and Team Work	
Foundations of Nursing Therapeutics II	
Nursing Therapeutics II	
Field Study II	
Chinese Language*	
English Language for Nurses*	
Life Sciences III	
Nursing Therapeutics III	
Introduction to Specialty Nursing	
Ethical & Legal Aspects in Health Care	
Field Study III	
Personal & Professional Development	
Management, Evidence Based Practice, Research and Critical Thinking in Nursing	

Subject	QF Credits
Field Study IV	
Total	**452**

* Subjects outsourced to an external institution

4.4 Graduation Requirements

- Accumulation of 100 credits;
- Having a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 1.7 or above at the end of the Programme;
- Passing all field study evaluations and clinical skill evaluations, including Aseptic Technique, Administration of Medications and Hospital Final Practical Examination;
- Fulfilling NCHK requirement with at least 1,600 hours of clinical practicum; and
- Fulfilling all the Programme requirements as stipulated in the Programme Definitive Document, Student Handbook and Student Logbook.

4.5 Admission Requirements

- Fluency in Cantonese, and proficiency in written Chinese and English; and

  <u>For applicants with Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE) results:</u>

- Having completed Form 5 or equivalent; or

  <u>For applicants with Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE) results:</u>

- Having obtained Level 2 or above in 5 subjects, including Chinese Language, English Language and Mathematics and any two other subjects in Category A (Core / Elective Subjects) and Category B (Applied Learning Subjects)*, or equivalent.

*For Category B – Applied Learning Subjects, students awarded “Attained” results will be considered by the Education Bureau as having acquired the competencies as those at HKDSE Level 2 for the purposes of further studies and work. For candidates who took Liberal Studies in 2023/24 or before, Level 2 or above in Liberal Studies will be regarded as “Attained” in Citizenship and Social Development.

5. IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ACCREDITATION REPORT

5.1 Variation and withdrawal of this Accreditation Report

5.1.1 This Accreditation Report is issued pursuant to section 5 of the AAVQO, and contains HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding the accreditation, including the validity period as well as any conditions and restrictions subject to which the determination is to have effect.

5.1.2 HKCAAVQ may subsequently decide to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report if it is satisfied that any of the grounds set out in section 5 (2) of the AAVQO apply. This includes where HKCAAVQ is satisfied that the Operator is no longer competent to achieve the relevant objectives and/or the Programme no longer meets the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator (whether by reference to the Operator's failure to fulfil any conditions and/or comply with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report or otherwise) or where at any time during the validity period there has/have been substantial change(s) introduced by the Operator after HKCAAVQ has issued the accreditation report(s) to the Operator and which has/have not been approved by HKCAAVQ. Please refer to the '*Guidance Notes on Substantial Change to Accreditation Status*' in seeking approval for proposed changes. These Guidance Notes can be downloaded from the HKCAAVQ website.

5.1.3 If HKCAAVQ decides to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, it will give the Operator notice of such variation or withdrawal pursuant to section 5(4) of the AAVQO.

5.1.4 The accreditation status of the Operator and/or Programme will lapse immediately upon the expiry of the validity period or upon the issuance of a notice of withdrawal of this Accreditation Report.

5.2 Appeals

5.2.1 If the Operator is aggrieved by the determination made in this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of this Accreditation Report.

5.2.2 If the Operator is aggrieved by a decision to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of the Notice of Variation or Withdrawal.

5.2.3 The Operator should be aware that a notice of variation or withdrawal of this Accreditation Report is not itself an accreditation report and the right to appeal

against HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding accreditation arises only from this Accreditation Report.

5.2.4 Please refer to Cap 592A (www.elegislation.gov.hk) for the appeal rules. Details of the appeal procedure are contained in section 13 of the AAVQO and can be accessed from the QF website at: www.hkqf.gov.hk.

5.3 **Qualifications Register**

5.3.1 Qualifications accredited by HKCAAVQ are eligible for entry into the QR at www.hkqr.gov.hk for recognition under the QF. The Operator should apply separately to have their quality-assured qualifications entered into the QR.

5.3.2 Only learners who commence the study of the named accredited learning programme during the validity period and who have graduated with the named qualification listed in the QR will be considered to have acquired a qualification recognised under the QF.

Ref: VA102/01/03&VA102/02/03-08