

Competence-based Professional Assessment (PA) in Geotechnical Discipline

Results of the Financial Year 2022-2023

1. Results of 34 competence-based PAs were endorsed by the Qualification & Membership Board in the period of April 2022 to March 2023. The passing rate was 44%.
2. Statistic of not meeting the competence standard is presented below:

Competence Area	Competence	Number of candidate(s) not meeting the standard
Applying Engineering Knowledge	1	18
	2	17
	11	8
Developing Technical Solutions	3	8
	4	10
Managing Engineering Work	5	0
	6	1
	7	1
	12	3
Upkeeping Professional Acumen	8	1
	9	1
	10	0
Writing Assessment	13	2
	13(i)	1
	13(ii)	2

3. Statistic of underperformed items is shown below:

Competence	% of failed candidates not meeting the competence requirement
C1 – Comprehend and apply knowledge of accepted principles underpinning widely applied good practice for professional engineering	~95%
C2 – Comprehend and apply knowledge of accepted principles underpinning good practice for professional engineering that is specific to Hong Kong	~89%
C4 – Design or develop solutions to complex engineering problems in accordance with good practice for professional engineering	~53%

4. Comments on the performance of the failed candidates given by Assessors have been reviewed. Below is a gist of the comments giving a glimpse of the general views of the Assessors.

- *Candidates could not demonstrate good understanding of fundamental geotechnical engineering principles and theories that are needed to apply in solving complex engineering problems.*
- *Better grabs of e.g. ground investigation planning, numerical modelling, earth pressure theory and groundwater flow theory, etc. are needed.*
- *Candidates do not possess sufficient design and construction knowledge in their projects. They are unable to demonstrate the competence in e.g. geotechnical regulatory requirements, assessments and management of engineering risk, limitations of design software, etc.*