

Online register of MQA accredited courses

KUALA LUMPUR: The public can now check online to find out about all Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) accredited courses offered in public and private universities.

The information is contained in the Malaysian Qualifications Register (MQR).

Previously, only accredited courses offered by private institutions were listed on MQA's website.

Deputy Higher Education Minister Datuk Ong Tee Keat launched the MQR yesterday on the first day of the MAPCU (Malaysian Association of Private Colleges and Universities)-MQA Higher Education Exhibition 2008 at the MidValley Exhibition Centre here.

"I'm told that all programmes previously accredited by LAN (National Accreditation Board) will be automatically included in this register

» These programmes will then have to undergo MQA's auditing process«

DATUK ONG TEE KEAT



until their expiry date is over.

"These programmes will then have to undergo MQA's auditing process," said Ong.

He also said that programmes offered by public universities, polytechnics and community colleges would be accredited by MQA on the condition that they have been recognised by the Public Services Department (PSD).

Subsequently, the PSD will only recognise qualifications from pro-

grammes listed in the MQR for those applying for civil service jobs.

Ong added that the MQR would also serve as a guideline for credit transfers between accredited courses and institutions, as well as a tool to help local institutions obtain international recognition for their programmes.

MQA chief executive officer Datuk Dr Syed Ahmad Hussein told reporters the agency was currently updating the register.

"Not all (courses) have been listed yet because we are still collecting and verifying data. However, a big portion has been listed already," he said, adding that currently 222 courses from public institutions and 1,622 from private institutions were listed on the MQR.

He expected the register to be completed by March.

Dr Syed Ahmad said that MQA would look into setting up an English version after the list is completed. It is currently only available in Bahasa Malaysia.

Although it was announced at the launch that the register would be available at <http://www.mqa.gov.my/mqr/index.htm> as of yesterday, a quick check at the MQA website revealed an announcement that the MQR could only be viewed from tomorrow.

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