

Q<u>UALIFIED RETIREMENT ADVISER</u> 核 准 退 休 顧 問



### PRESS RELEASE

# An Eligible Training Course under the WAM Pilot Programme IFPHK "Qualified Retirement Adviser (QRA)" Education Program ~Advancing Financial Talent with 80 Percent Fee Reimbursed~

(Hong Kong – 3 June, 2020) – The Institute of Financial Planners of Hong Kong (IFPHK) is pleased to announce the "Qualified Retirement Adviser (QRA)" has been approved under the Financial Incentive Scheme (the "Scheme") of the "Pilot Programme to Enhance Talent Training for the Asset and Wealth Management Sector" ("WAM Pilot Programme") as eligible for receiving funding subsidies by course participants. The IFPHK is one of the seventh education providers under the Scheme.

The WAM Pilot Programme is a government funded programme to enhance talent training for the asset and wealth management sector to raise its bar and competency. Each eligible practitioner who has completed the QRA course may apply for reimbursement of 80% of the fees of this course, subject to a maximum of HK\$10,000. Financial practitioners who have completed QRA Education Program and passed the examination could apply for QRA designation to get immediate recognition from employers, peers and consumers.

The QRA program was introduced in 2015 as the first-ever designation for retirement advisers in Hong Kong. The program is tailor-made for the Hong Kong retirement market, and covers key areas in retirement and the related products, including financial management, investment, insurance, annuities, estate and suitability analysis on retirement issues. Upon completion of the QRA Education Program and Examination, students are expected to master core retirement concepts, develop effective communication skills and gain practical skills in giving basic retirement-focused advice in case scenarios.

"Leading the financial planning profession and raising its professional standards are the mandates of the IFPHK. We are committed to nurturing financial planning talents to better meet the needs of the community. With the greying population globally, as well the ample retirement solutions in Hong Kong, we foresee that there would be an increasingly needs of qualified retirement advisers like the QRA. We are honored to receive the endorsement and support from the FSTB, and encourage practitioners to make use of this chance to leverage their talent," says Dennis Lau, Chief Executive Officer of the IFPHK.

The QRA Education Program requires no pre-requisite on academic or professional qualifications to apply. It offers a flexible course mode of 24 classroom hours (Exemption Track) and 40 classroom hours (Ordinary Track), and can be completed in as little as 3 months.

# Curriculum of the QRA Education Program

Topic 1: Introduction to Retirement

Topic 2: Basic Financial Management and Health Insurance

Topic 3: Investing for Retirement and Estate

**Topic 4: Annuities and Financial Management** 

Topic 5: Suitability Analysis and Practical Knowledge on Retirement Issues

**Topic 6: Retirement in Practice** 

Topic 7: Retirement Case Studies

# Students who are qualified for the Exemption Track can be exempted for classroom training on Topic 1-3 (16 classroom hours)



# QUALIFIED RETIREMENT ADVISER 核准退休顧問



For more details on the Qualified Retirement Adviser (QRA) designation, please visit <u>http://www.ifphk.org/qra/about</u>.

For more details on the "WAM Pilot Programme", please visit https://www.wamtalent.org.hk/eng/.

## <u>Media Enquiries</u>

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### About IFPHK

IFPHK was established in June 2000 as a non-profit organization for the fast–growing financial services industry. It aims to be recognized in the region as the premier professional body representing financial planners dedicated to upholding the highest professional standards.

The Institute is the sole licensing body in Hong Kong authorized by Financial Planning Standards Board Limited to grant the much-coveted and internationally-recognized CFP<sup>CM</sup> certification and AFP<sup>TM</sup> certification to qualified financial planning professionals in Hong Kong and Macau.

It represents more than 7,500 financial planning practitioners in Hong Kong from such diverse professional backgrounds as banking, insurance, independent financial advisory, stockbroking, accounting, and legal services.

Currently there are more than 181,000 CFP certificants in 26 countries/regions; the majority of these professionals are in the U.S., Canada, China, Australia and Japan, with approximately 4,400 CFP certificants in Hong Kong.

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