

## **FAQs for Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) and Enhanced Direct R1 Upgrading Pathway**

### ALP

**Q1. Why is the ALP only for work permit holders (WPHs) from Malaysia and North Asian Sources<sup>1</sup> (NAS)?**

A1. The ALP aims to facilitate the entry and retention of higher-skilled migrant workers. For a start, the ALP will only be offered to Malaysian and NAS WPHs. We will continue to review if it is possible to extend the ALP to WPHs from other sources.

**Q2. What is the difference between the Skills Evaluation Certificate (Knowledge) [SEC(K)] and the ALP?**

A2. The SEC(K) comprises both written and practical test components, while there is no compulsory requirement to undergo training prior to attempting the SEC(K) test. The ALP consists of a 1-day training course followed by an end-of-course validation which assesses a construction worker's craft-skills competency via a practical test. There is no written test under the ALP.

**Q3. Are Malaysian and NAS WPHs required to obtain an end-of-course validation under the ALP if they have an existing SEC(K) certificate or equivalent?**

A3. No, Malaysian and NAS WPHs that already hold a valid SEC(K) certificate or equivalent are not required to obtain the new end-of-course validation under the ALP. The ALP is just an additional pathway to facilitate the entry and retention of higher-skilled Malaysian and NAS WPHs.

### Enhanced Direct R1 Pathway

**Q4. Why is the enhanced Direct R1 pathway only for Malaysian and NAS WPHs?**

A4. The enhanced Direct R1 pathway aims to facilitate the entry and retention of higher-skilled migrant workers. For a start, the enhanced Direct R1 pathway is only available for Malaysian and NAS WPHs. We will continue to review if it is possible to extend the enhanced Direct R1 pathway to WPHs from other sources.

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<sup>1</sup> North Asian Sources refer to Hong Kong, Macau, South Korea and Taiwan.

**Q5. Can Malaysian and NAS construction WPHs continue to upgrade to Higher-skilled (R1) through the existing pathways (i.e. Multi-Skilling Scheme, CoreTrade and Market-Based Skills Recognition Framework (MBF))?**

A5. Yes, Malaysian and NAS WPHs can continue to upgrade to R1 through the existing MultiSkilling Scheme, CoreTrade framework and MBF. The ALP is just an additional upgrading pathway for Malaysian and NAS WPHs.

**Q6. How can Malaysian and NAS WPHs upgraded under this enhanced Direct R1 pathway renew their R1 eligibility?**

A6. The R1 status for all WPHs is valid for 2 years, regardless of the upgrading pathway. Applications to renew their R1 status can be submitted online 3 months before the date of expiry. To renew their R1 eligibility, WPHs are required to attend Continuing Education and Training (CET) under their respective registered trade. For WPHs who upgraded to R1 under the Multi-Skilling Scheme, CoreTrade or enhanced Direct R1 pathway, the CET trade category is pre-determined according to the trade that the WPH used for his initial skills assessment. However, Malaysian WPHs that upgraded to R1 via the enhanced Direct R1 pathway but do not hold an SEC(K) certification or an ALP end-of-course validation (e.g. those who hold SPM qualifications only) can attend CET for Workplace Safety and Health-related Trades for a start. To renew the R1 eligibility or check the expiry date of their R1 eligibility, workers can log into the BCA Construction Workforce Registration System (CWRS) – Direct R1 Renewal portal, (<http://eservices.bca.gov.sg/DirectR1>).