

Credit transfer from Post-Graduate Certificates into MBA programmes at AMBA-accredited institutions (2025 Update)

Executive Summary

This policy accommodates the creation of dedicated Postgraduate Certificates composed of MBA subjects/modules and subsequent credit transfer. Such certificates provide helpful entry points for students to enroll initially into part of the MBA programme without commitment to the full MBA journey, and to decide at a later stage whether they wish to continue with the full MBA programme. This route can also be referred to as stackable.

Postgraduate Certificate Design

Participants enrolling in a Postgraduate Certificate (PG Cert) must be subject to the same admission, delivery and assessment standards as the MBA programme at an AMBA-accredited institution. This applies explicitly to work experience requirements for all participants, contact/learning hours, Masters level learning outcomes and appropriately balanced rigorous assessment.

The maximum credit transferred into an MBA programme at an AMBA accredited institution from a PG Cert should not exceed 33% of the total MBA programme.

Any PG Cert credits transferred into an MBA programme must have been awarded within the last five years.

Credit transfer from a PG Cert into an MBA between different AMBA accredited institutions is permitted, but this is at the discretion of the institution awarding the MBA and subject to its usual admissions requirements and processes.

Credits obtained from a PG Cert can be composed of any combination of MBA core courses, MBA electives, or a mix of the two.

There are no restrictions on the proportion of MBA participants within a learning group benefiting from the PG Cert credit transfer.

PG Certs are not AMBA-accredited and must not be marketed/presented as such.

In the best examples seen to date, the PG Cert is embedded within the MBA programme design and students enrolled in the PG Cert take their courses jointly with students enrolled in the MBA in a mixed cohort.

Notes

This policy was agreed by the International Accreditation Advisory Board (IAAB) in March 2025 and is anticipated to be integrated into the next iteration of the AMBA accreditation criteria, due for publication in May 2027.