

## FAQs

### 1. What is ISQ?

IBP Superior Qualification (ISQ) is the only recognized professional qualification for bankers in Pakistan, which is recognized by both, the State Bank of Pakistan as well as the banking and financial services industry. The JAIBP program is also accredited by UK's Chartered Banker Institute.

ISQ is a professional qualification program, which is aimed at empowering the present and potential management-level bankers with the practical knowledge about the banking industry and its functions. ISQ is a three-level, self-study program designed to equip entrants of the banking industry with necessary skills and knowledge to become well-rounded banking professionals. Unlike academic qualifications, the ISQ is both market-oriented and practical. Through a carefully designed course structure and subject matter, participants are able to accelerate their learning process and acquire the relevant banking knowledge of regulations, products, lending, marketing, operations and management Business Communication & I.T. which they would otherwise only acquire informally over an extended period in their professional banking careers.

### 2. Why ISQ?

**The ISQ program offers its candidates:**

- An internationally recognized qualification accredited by Chartered Banker Institute (UK).
- A cross-functional knowledge base designed to educate the candidate about best banking practices and technicalities.
- Self-study modules.
- A flexible course structure to suit both working professionals and full time students.
- An affordable and cost-effective qualification.
- Structured curriculum linked to banking practices.
- Cash rewards to employees from banks.
- Faster career progression including possible promotions.

### 3. What are the benefits of ISQ?

Benefits for bankers: promotion, annual increments, cash awards and locally as well as internationally recognized JAIBP portion of ISQ as per bank's HR policies.

### 4. What is the ISQ registration process?

**Registration procedure to apply for ISQ:**

Get yourself REGISTERED by completing the following steps:

- Fill out the registration form available on ISQ online portal, please follow the link <http://192.185.204.60/login.aspx> to access ISQ online portal;



- Submit the duly filled & signed registration form with paid deposit slip (available on ISQ online portal); to IBP Head Office (M. T. Khan) Road, Karachi – 74200, Pakistan along with the following attested copies:
  - o 3 recent passport size photographs;
  - o CNIC and educational documents;
- Under-Graduate candidates are required to submit a letter from their academic institutions confirming their enrollment in the graduating program stated in their registration form.

## 5. What is the Eligibility criteria to apply for ISQ?

Banking and finance industry professionals

OR

Candidates in the final year of graduation (14 years) or in the 3rd year of graduation (16 years) studies

OR

Graduates in any discipline with a minimum 2nd Division or Equivalent qualification

OR

Candidates enrolled in Professional Accounting qualifications.

## 6. Is ISQ recognized internationally?

Formally, only the Junior Associateship of IBP (JAIBP) portion of ISQ is recognized internationally at the moment.

## 7. What is the Eligibility criteria for foreign students?

Candidate should obtain a letter from Higher Education Commission (HEC) where they either recognize the degree or give an equivalence certificate to the candidate.

## 8. Who can attest the documents?

Any senior banker or any gazetted officer can attest the documents.

## 9. What is the fee structure for ISQ?

### PROGRAM FEES:

• Registration fee (one-time)	:	PKR 20,000/-
• JAIBP Examination fee (Stage-I)	:	PKR 3,000/- (Per Subject)
• JAIBP Examination fee (Stage-II)	:	PKR 3,500/- (Per Subject)
• JAIBP Examination fee (Stage-III)	:	PKR 4,000/- (Per Subject)
• AIBP Examination fee	:	PKR 2,500/- (Per Subject)
• JAIBP Comprehensive Program fee	:	
Registration fee	:	PKR 20,000/-
Exemption fee	:	PKR 42,000/-
Examination fee	:	PKR 9,000/-
Total Fee	:	<u>PKR 71,000/-</u>



## 10. What is the mode of payment of fee?

All payments shall be made through specific bank deposit slips available on IBP's website.

## 11. Is there any Fee Installment Program?

- The Installment program has been discontinued; complete payment is required at the time of registration or enrollment.

## 12. What is the duration of the program?

Candidates can complete the three stages within a minimum of 18 months (3 Sessions).

## 13. What is structure of the program?

The ISQ program compresses of three stages and each stage consists of 4 subjects. For details of courses please refer to the flyer.

## 14. What is the exam and registration cycle?

Examinations are held twice a year in June (Summer Session) and December (Winter Session).

## 15. What are the limitations in moving from one stage of ISQ to another?

For stage II you must clear at least 2 subjects of Stage I. The candidate can then apply for Stage II subjects along with the remaining subjects of Stage I. Similarly, for Stage III the candidate should have completed Stage I and at least 2 subjects of Stage II.

## 16. How many attempts are allowed?

Maximum 16 attempts are allowed for entire 3 stages of ISQ, otherwise all complete / incomplete stage(s) will lapse and candidate have to appear afresh.

## 17. Any exemptions for academic qualifications?

In JAIBP qualification, the Institute of Bankers Pakistan (IBP) offers exemptions under a fast track route in different subject(s) based on academic qualifications and professional studies.

### According to the IBP-Academic and Editorial Committee/ Board's Policy:

- Candidates can avail exemptions up to 02 subjects in JAIBP if they have completed similar subjects in their academic qualifications;
- Candidates can avail exemptions up to 06 subjects in JAIBP if they have completed similar subjects in their professional studies (ICAP, ICMAP and PIPFA).



## 18. What is the procedure of applying for Exemptions?

To apply for exemption please follow the link <http://192.185.204.60/login.aspx> to access ISQ online portal;

- Attested photocopy of transcript(s) and degree or completion certificate along with exemption form to be dispatch to Examinations Department, The Institute of Bankers Pakistan, M.T Khan Road, Karachi.

## 19. What is the Exam Pattern and Passing Criteria for JAIBP & AIBP?

- JAIBP Stage-I & II Examinations - Objective Pattern i.e., 100% MCQs Based.
  - o Passing Criteria: Minimum 50% marks
- JAIBP Stage-III & AIBP Examinations - Objective & Subjective Pattern both.
  - o Passing Criteria: Minimum 50% marks each in objective and subjective section

## 20. Where are the exam centers located?

There are at least 25 locations across Pakistan & abroad.

## 21. Where can I find the Past papers/Sample papers of JAIBP?

Kindly visit our website [www.ibp.org.pk](http://www.ibp.org.pk) for the required Past papers regarding the JAIBP Exam.

- The link for the **Past papers** is given below:  
<https://www.ibp.org.pk/isq-past-papers/>

## 22. Where can I find the books for JAIBP Examination?

Kindly contact our UAN helpline number (021)111-427-477, for further guidance regarding ISQ books OR email at [dilawar.khan@ibp.org.pk](mailto:dilawar.khan@ibp.org.pk)

Syllabus Guides are also available on our website [www.ibp.org.pk](http://www.ibp.org.pk).

The link for guidelines is given below:

<https://www.ibp.org.pk/isq-syllabus-guide/>

## 23. Where can I find the reference material/ISQ handbook/books for AIBP Examination?

IBP does not provide books for AIBP, only the list of reference material is available on our website [www.ibp.org.pk](http://www.ibp.org.pk)

- The link for the Reference Material list is given below:  
<https://ibp.org.pk/isq-list-of-reference-material/>
- The ISQ Handbook available on our website [www.ibp.org.pk](http://www.ibp.org.pk) contains the syllabus outlines for AIBP, available in the following link:  
<https://ibp.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/ISQHandbook.pdf>

## 24. Where can I get the eBooks of JAIBP from?

IBP is now offering the ISQ E-Books in PDF Format at a nominal cost of PKR 250/- each. 11 E-Books are available, rest of the books are available in printed version\*.

### **Payment Mode for e-Books/Printed Books: Online**

IBAN: PK38 SCBL 0000 0017 0008 8201

Account Title: THE INSTITUTE OF BANKERS IN PAKISTAN

### **Procedure to get E-Books:**

Candidates are requested to share the payment proof\*\* along with their credentials/information i.e., name, contact number, name of books required at: [ebooks@ibp.org.pk](mailto:ebooks@ibp.org.pk)

## 25. Kindly provide me the details for ISQ Weekend Coaching classes?

Each JAIBP subject is covered by experts who are highly experienced in their fields and have been regularly delivering sessions on these subjects at different forums and educational institutions.

### **Details of the Coaching Classes are as follows:**

- Fee: PKR 3,500 (per subject)
- Timing: 9 am – 5 pm (Saturday and Sunday)
- Coaching classes are conducted online via Zoom

Link for registration form of Coaching classes is as below:

<https://ibp.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Coaching-Class-Form.pdf>

## 26. Where can I get the Subject books from?

Subject books are available at IBP Head office, Karachi and its local center at Lahore. However, they can also be couriered to the candidate.

## 27. What is the percentage of candidates passing ISQ?

There is no fixed percentage of people passing ISQ; it varies from subject to subject.

## 28. Can we pass the exam by only referring to the text book?

Anyone who goes through the text book and also has knowledge of the current trends of the banking industry can easily clear the paper.

## 29. Are the exam centers easily changeable?

Exam centers can be changed easily; you just have to send a written request to the examination department or email us at [examination@ibp.org.pk](mailto:examination@ibp.org.pk) along with Rs. 500/- pay order (change of centre Fee).



### 30. Is there an age limit for ISQ?

There is no age limit for candidates who wish register for ISQ exam. You can register for it any time.

### 31. Does IBP guarantee jobs to candidates on successful completion of ISQ?

No, IBP does not guarantee jobs to candidates upon successful completion of ISQ. However, the ISQ qualification will be an added advantage to them at time of job recruitment. For candidates already employed, it can pave the way for promotions and monetary benefits, etc.

### 32. What is the validity period of registration?

Registration is valid for life.

### 33. What is the validity period of enrollment?

Time Limitation policy for completion of JAIBP (Effective from Winter-2015)  
Candidates registered from Winter -2015 & onwards will be given a time frame of 08 years to complete JAIBP.

If the candidate is unable to complete the JAIBP program in 08 years, all of the complete and incomplete stage(s) will be lapsed and the candidate(s) will be required to enroll in JAIBP again as a fresh candidate.

Candidate registered prior to Winter-2015 & have at least a single chance/attempt remaining will be allowed 08 years from Winter-2015 to complete their JAIBP. If the candidate is unable to complete the JAIBP program by Summer-2023, all of the complete and incomplete stage(s)/part(s) will be lapsed and the candidate(s) will be required to enroll in JAIBP again as a fresh candidate.

### 34. Is ISQ better than CA, ICMA, CIMA etc.?

ISQ cannot be compared to other qualifications as it is designed in a way that especially caters to the banking industry.

### 35. How many classes do we have for each subject?

There are 04 classes held for each subject.

### 36. What is the procedure to get a consolidated certificate?

Consolidated certificate is issued on request basis to qualified candidates upon payment of Rs. 500/- in Favor of The Institute of Bankers Pakistan.

### 37. What is procedure for Duplicate Provisional Certificate?

Candidate can apply for duplicate certificate with hand written application along with a payment of Rs. 500/- in favor of The Institute of Bankers Pakistan.



### 38. What is the procedure for duplicate final Certificate?

Candidates can apply for duplicate final certificate with Application and Original FIR/Roznamcha along with Rs. 1,000/- in favor of The Institute of Bankers Pakistan.

### 39. How can I get the Professional Banker Certificate?

Candidates can apply for the issuance of PB Certificate if he/she has completed 06 subjects of JAIBP Stage-I & Stage-II as mentioned on the website <https://ibp.org.pk/professional-banker-program/>

### 40. If a candidate applies for exemption(s) in subject for any stage, will the attempt be counted or not?

As per revised attempt policy (effective from summer 2022), an attempt will only be counted when the candidates actually appear in the examination irrespective of the fact he/ she has been granted an exemption.