

Date : 28 February 2019



STANDARDS
MALAYSIA

The Scheme for the Accreditation of Certification Bodies (The ACB Scheme)
ACB CIRCULAR 1/2019

CHANGE OF ACB ACCREDITATION CYCLE FROM 3 YEARS TO 5 YEARS

1. Introduction and scope

Effective 1 January 2019, Department of Standards Malaysia (Standards Malaysia) began implementing the new fee structure based on Standards of Malaysia (Fee) Regulation 2018.

On 9 January 2015, The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) published IAF MD 17 – Witnessing Activities for the Accreditation of Management System Certification Bodies with an application date beginning 7 January 2018.

Taking the abovementioned into consideration, Standards Malaysia has revised its ACB accreditation cycle from the current cycle of three (3) years to five (5) years cycle.

2. Objective

This circular is aimed to inform the related Standards Malaysia accredited certification bodies on the transition processes of accredited certification bodies (CBs) from the three (3) year cycle to five (5) year accreditation cycle.

3. Changes to the ACB accreditation cycle:

- 3.1 Under the ACB scheme, the new accreditation cycle will be valid for five (5) years. There will be two types of frequency, the initial accreditation cycle, as well as, the second and subsequent accreditation cycle is as per Annex 1.
- 3.2 The change between the two (2) frequencies will depend on the CBs performance.
- 3.3 For Medical Device Quality Management Systems (MDQMS), in line with IAF MD 8, only the initial accreditation cycle applies.

4. Standards Malaysia arrangement for the transition to the new accreditation cycles

3.1 Accredited Certification Bodies

- i. The change to the new accreditation cycle will be carried out in stages beginning **1 January 2019**. All renewals after 1 January 2019 will be in accordance to the new accreditation cycle. The type of frequency will depend upon the recommendation of the assessment team.

3.2 New Applicants:

- i. All applicants granted accreditation after 1 January 2019 will be in accordance to the new accreditation cycle.
- ii. For new applicants without prior accreditation from Standards Malaysia, the applicants will follow the initial accreditation cycle.
- iii. For new applicants with prior accreditation from Standards Malaysia, depending on the performance of previous assessments in other programmes, the applicant may be recommended to the second and subsequent cycle.

THANK YOU

Director of Accreditation

Example of proposed accreditation cycle

