

Date: 20.04.2026

## **TRANSITION FROM HARD COPY CERTIFICATES TO E-CERTIFICATES ISSUANCE**

Botswana Qualifications Authority (BQA) hereby informs all stakeholders and members of the general public of the implementation of an upgraded certificate issuance system. As part of its ongoing digital transformation and environmental sustainability initiatives, the Authority will transition from the issuance of hard-copy (paper) certificates to electronic certificates (e-certificates), effective 27 April 2026.

This transition is aimed at enhancing the security, efficiency, and accessibility of certification services for all users.

The e-certificates will provide immediate access upon issuance, enabling recipients to download their certificates without delay. Each certificate will incorporate enhanced security features, including a digital signature and a Quick Response (QR) code, allowing for real-time verification and significantly reducing the risk of fraud.

The initiative also contributes to environmental conservation by reducing paper usage and eliminating the need for physical storage. E-certificates will carry the same legal validity and official recognition as traditional paper certificates.

Stakeholders and the public are further advised that:

1. Effective 27 April 2026, all newly issued certificates will be provided exclusively in electronic format.
2. Existing paper certificates will remain valid until their stated expiry dates, where applicable.
3. Upon renewal of any certificated service, clients will be issued with e-certificates.

Verification of e-certificates can be conducted by scanning the embedded QR code using a smartphone camera or QR code scanner. This will direct users to a secure online platform where the authenticity of the certificate can be confirmed instantly.

For further enquiries or assistance regarding the new system, stakeholders are encouraged to contact BQA through the following channels: Email: [educationalrecords@bqa.org.bw](mailto:educationalrecords@bqa.org.bw) or Telephone: **+267 393 5279 / 3951511**.