

**FINAL REPORT OF
OIC-STAT COM
WORKING
GROUP NO. 3**

**CERTIFICATION
AND
ACCREDITATION
PROGRAM FOR
OFFICIAL
STATISTICS
PROFESSIONALS**

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**1.
INTRODUCTION**

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Valued Accreditation in the 21st Century

- Trustworthiness
= Integrity = Reliability = Credibility
- Professionalism
- High Standards
- Certification



Active Professionals in the 21st Century and their certification/accreditation



General
Statisticians



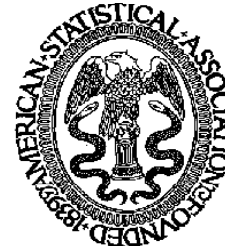
C-Stat
(Chartered
Statistician)

P.STAT. (Professional
Statistician)

A.STAT. (Associate
Statistician)



Statistical Society of Canada
Soci t  statistique du Canada



pstat[®]
Accredited Professional Statistician[™]

OStat

1.1. Background

- Based on the Bahrain's Central Informatics Organization proposal to initiate a program on the "Accreditation of Statistics Professionals" specific to member countries of OIC in the First Session of the OIC Stat Com held in April 2011

1.1. Background

- Knowing that almost all national statistics organisations are operating under tight resources and do not have the luxury to let go of their staff for an extended period of time to pursue training, this program aims to encourage continuous statistical capacity building by providing the venue to upgrade statistical knowledge through distance learning.

1.1. Background

- Targets *active Official Statistics Professionals of OIC member countries* to help them chart their professional development and establishing clear and effective career paths by endorsing the expertise and knowledge under an official context.
- When implemented appropriately, accreditation can strengthen the fundamental leadership and steering role of statistical authorities.
- An eventual tool for international categorization and recognition of statistical organizations in OIC.

1.2. OIC-Stat Com WG3 and its Activities

1. OIC Stat Com Working Group 3

* Bahrain (Lead Country) * Egypt * IDB * Kazakhstan
* Palestine * Qatar * SESRIC * United Arab Emirates

2. Main tasks

- to develop conceptual and methodological background of the accreditation program,
- to outline the processes involved in the establishment and operations of the program,
and
- to identify requirements for application towards certification and accreditation.

1.2.OIC-Stat Com WG3 and its Activities

3. Deliverables of WG3

OIC-StatCom
Organization of the Islamic Conference Statistical Commission

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April 2012

Compiled by:

Central Informatics Organisation (Bahrain)

in cooperation with SESRIC, Egypt, IDB, Kazakhstan, Palestine,
Qatar and United Arab Emirates

1.2.OIC-Stat Com WG3 and its Activities

4. Way forward activities of WG3

- Mostly communicated via email
- Completed using consultative questionnaire format
 - Questionnaire was distributed, tallied and results were reported for feedback among WG3 members (using majority rule).
 - Drafted two reports/deliverables using the WG3-approved 4 levels of OStat certification and accreditation processes/requirements.

1.3. Other Practices on Accreditation of Statistical Professionals

- usually offered by country's statistical society/ association
- based on Code of Conduct and Ethics or Ethical Guidelines for Statistical Practice
- voluntary
- portfolio-based
- application form along with portfolio documentation of experience, education, professional competence, communication skills and professional development
- application fees
- renewable after validity period (usually every five years)

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**2. ACCREDITATION
OF OFFICIAL
STATISTICAL
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2.1 Aim of the Accreditation System

to certify the expertise and knowledge under an official context for the professional conduct of statistical work of *active* Official Statistics

Professionals in OIC member countries bound by code of ethics, principles and good practices of Official Statistics.

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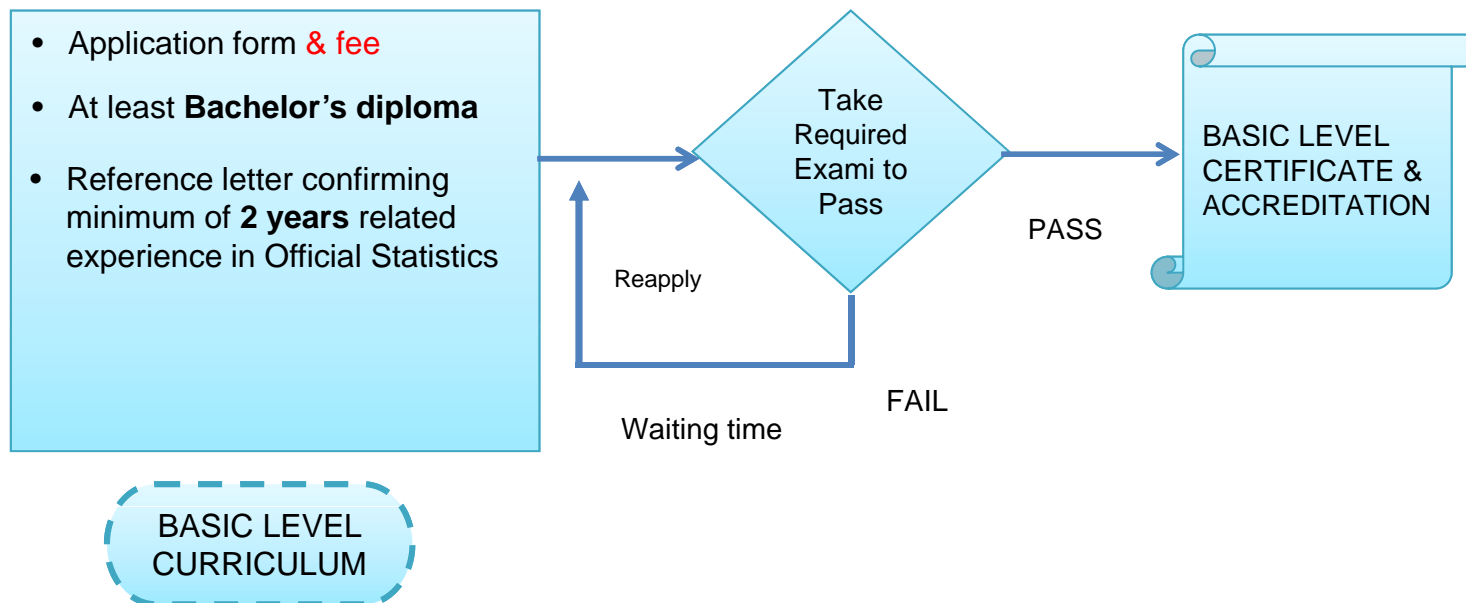
- International (OIC-wide) accreditation
- based on Code of Conduct and Ethics or Ethical Guidelines for Statistical Practice and Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
- encouraged
- Examination and portfolio-based
 - application form
 - + portfolio
 - + examination
 - application fees
(proposed) subject to OIC Stat Com decision
 - accreditation validity and renewal procedures *subject to OIC Stat Com decision*

WG3 Approved Levels of Certification & Accreditation

- Basic Level
- Intermediate Level
- Advance Level 1
- Advance Level 2

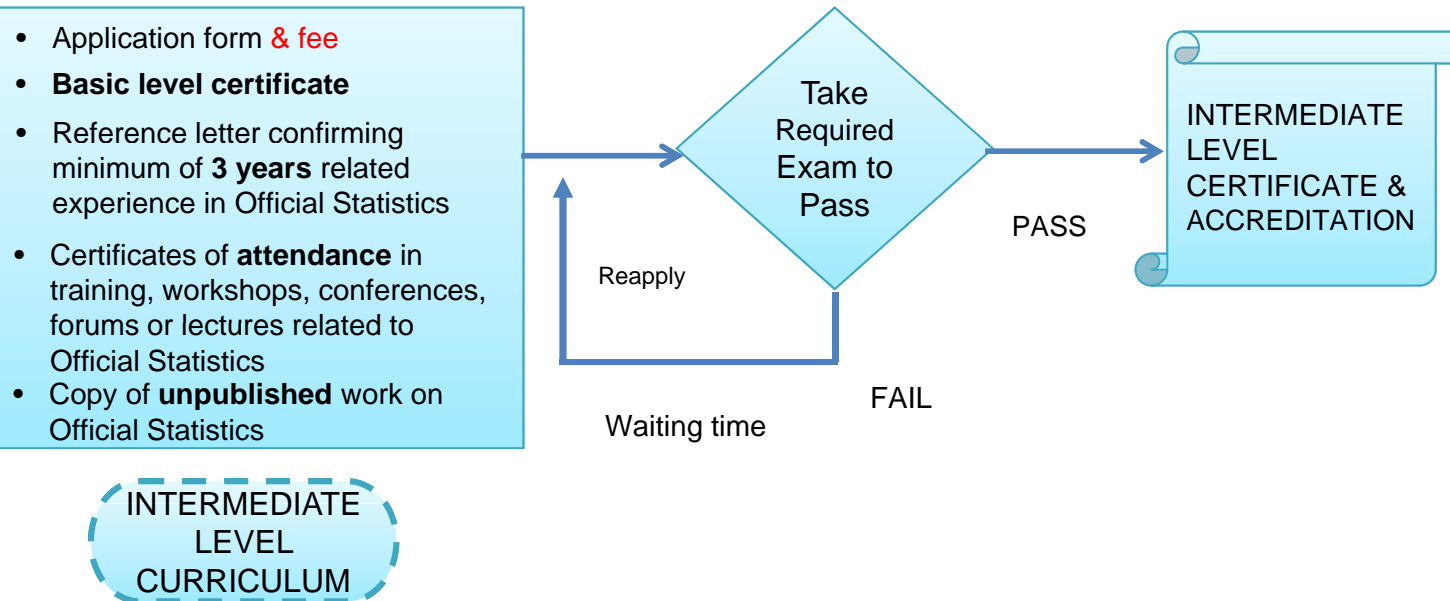
Assessment for Basic Level

ASSESSMENT FOR BASIC LEVEL CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION



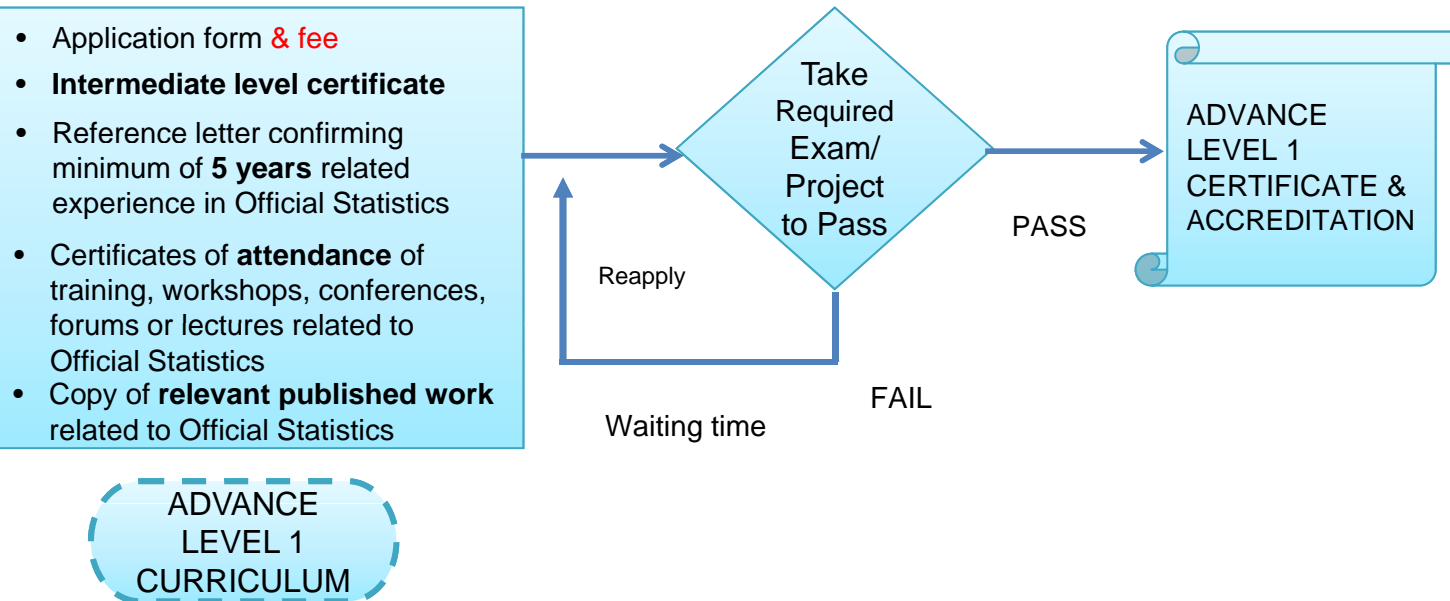
Assessment for Intermediate Level

ASSESSMENT FOR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION



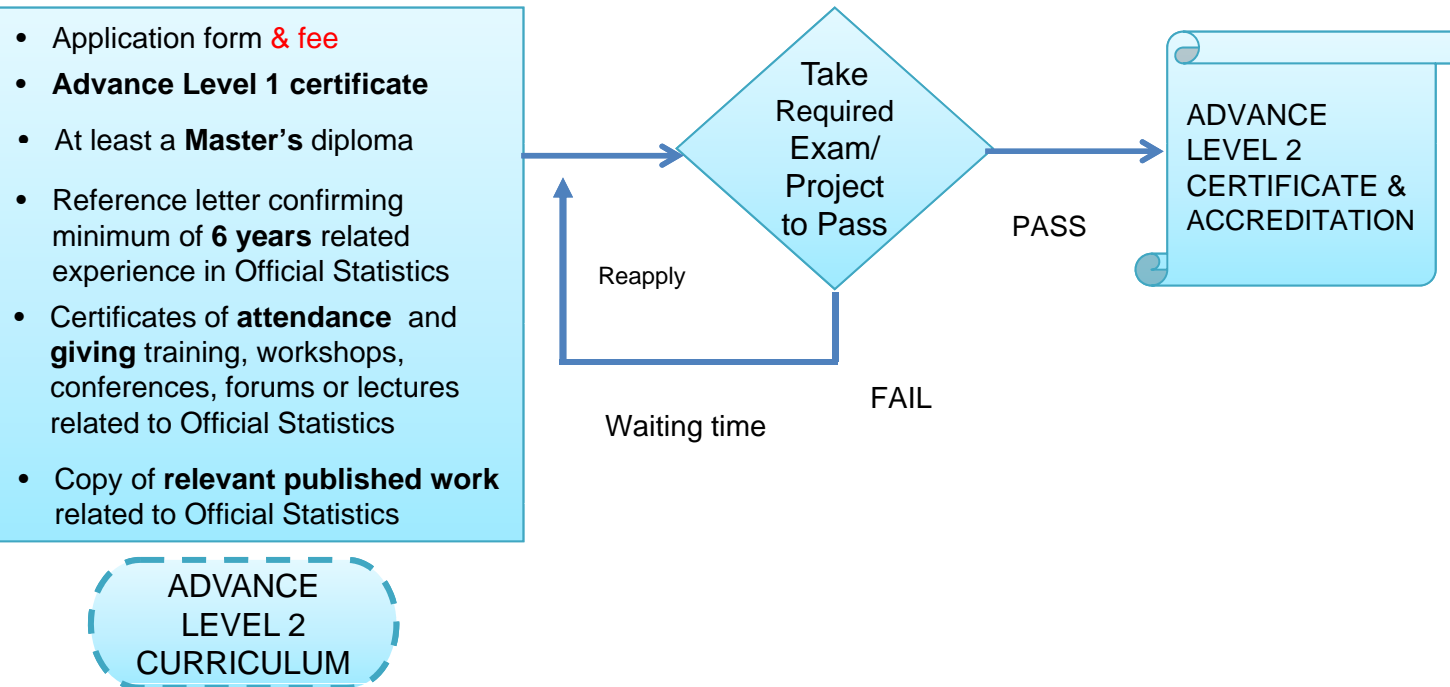
Assessment for Advance Level 1

ASSESSMENT FOR ADVANCE LEVEL 1 CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION



Assessment for Advance Level 2

ASSESSMENT FOR ADVANCE LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION



2.2 Tasks and Requirements of the Programme

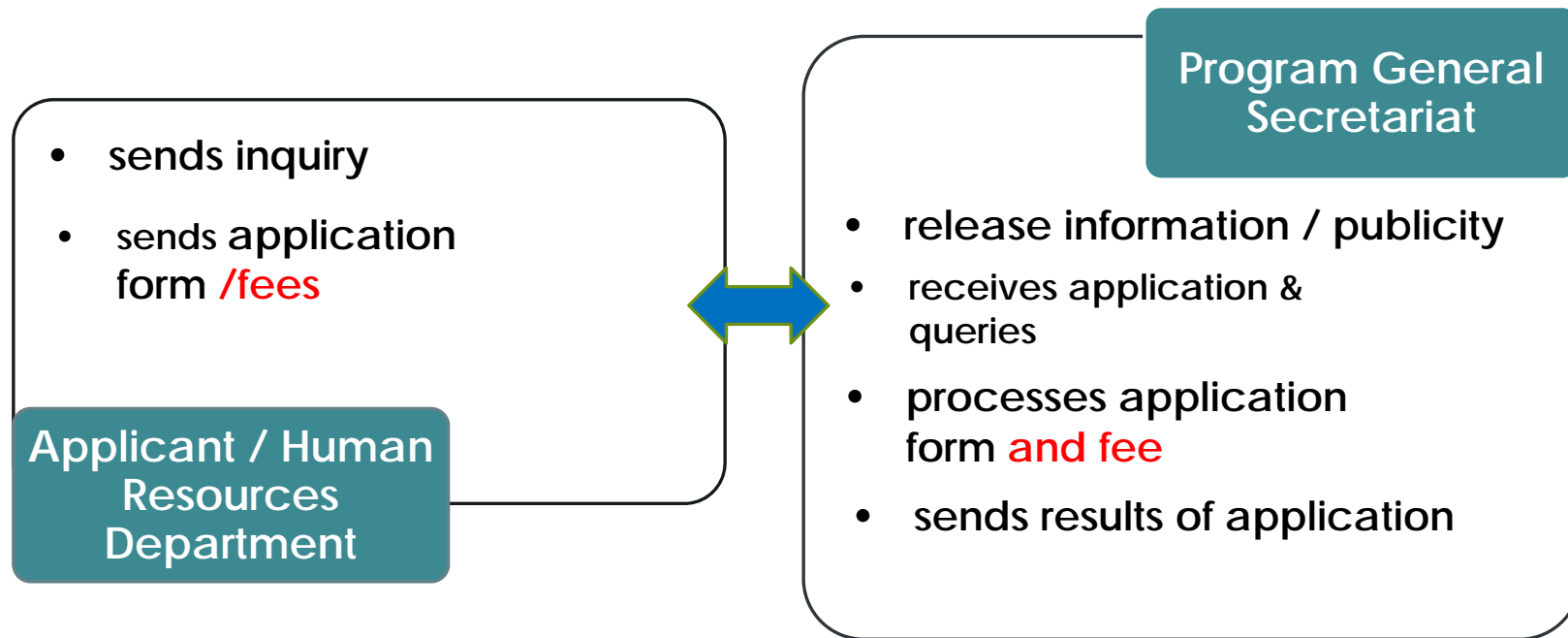
2.2.1. Accreditation Processes

The processes under OStat include

- (a) application and registration,
- (b) official curriculum and examination preparation,
- (c) examination testing,
- (d) post examination and results

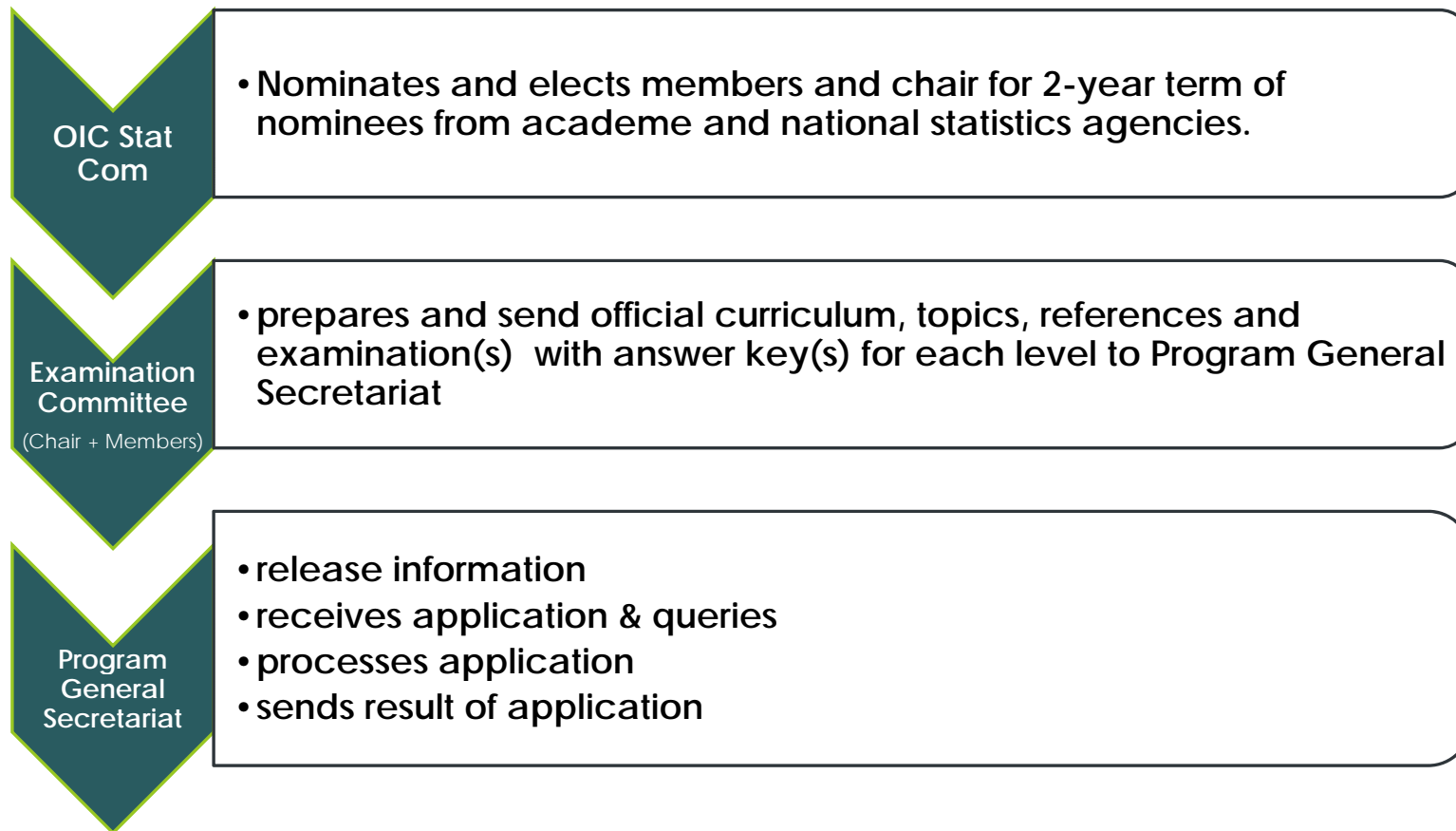
2.2 Tasks and Requirements of the Programme

2.2.1a Application and Registration Processes*



2.2 Tasks and Requirements of the Programme

2.2.1b. Official Curriculum & Examination Preparation Processes*

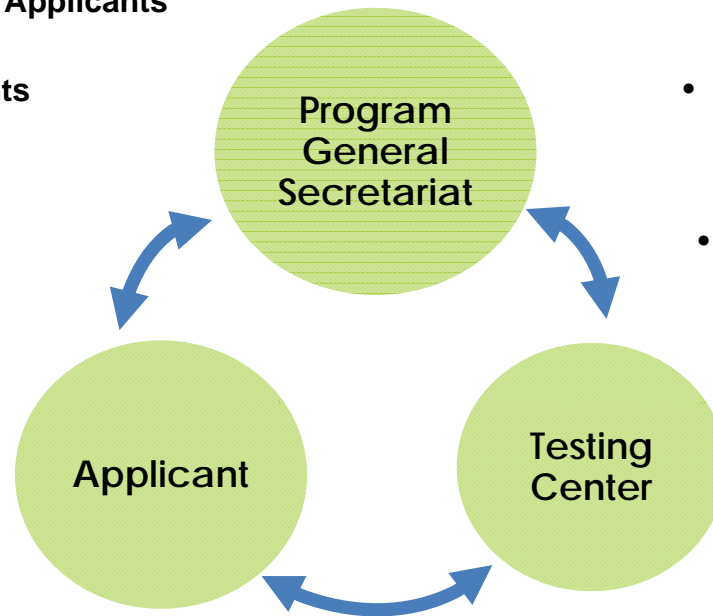


2.2 Tasks and Requirements of the Programme

2.2.1c. Examination Testing Processes*

Notification of qualified Applicants for examinations with

- Testing requirements
- Time
- Venue



- Dates, time and venue of testing of official examination(s) are decided
- Official examinations and list of Applicant examinees are sent to Testing Centers
- Completed official examinations are returned from Testing Center

- Completed official examinations are scored - manually or automated

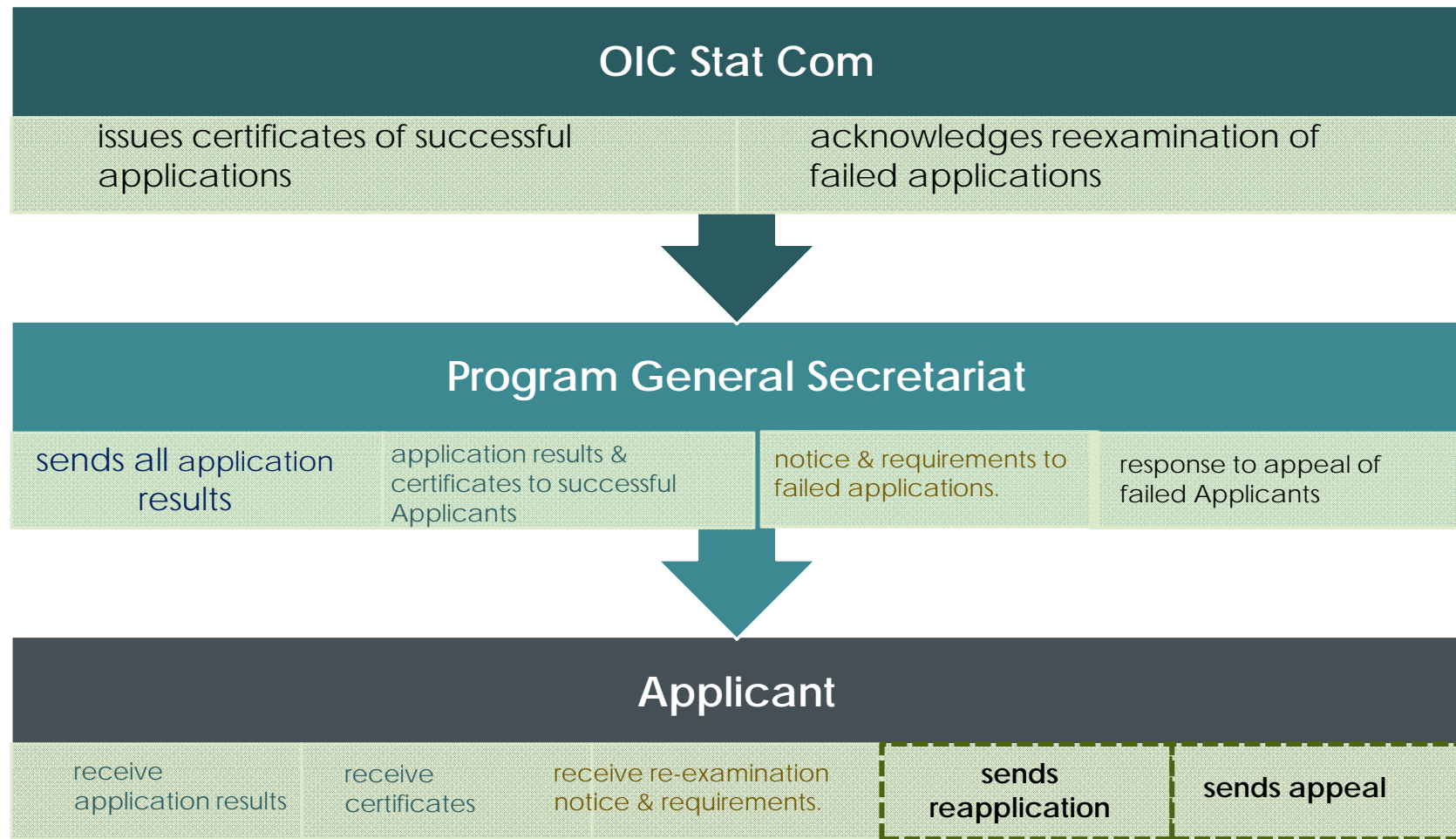
- Attends official examinations at designated time/place with valid identification/documentation

- Hosts official examinations
- Documents conducted examinations
- Compiles completed official examinations



2.2 Tasks and Requirements of the Programme

2.2.1d. Post-Examination Results Processes*



2.2 Tasks and Requirements of the Programme

2.2.2. Accreditation Committees

Accreditation processes requires establishment and funding of two committees

1. Examination Committee (technical)
2. Program General Secretariat (administrative)

2.2 Tasks and Requirements of the Programme

2.2.2. Accreditation Committees

Examination Committee

- Created to develop official curricula and to prepare the official examinations for each level of certification and accreditation.
- Credibility and competency of the membership/leadership is important
- OIC-Stat Com nominates, appoints, substitutes and mandates from the academe or OIC Member Country Statistical Organizations.
- Membership of Examination Committee is for two years.
- **Unclear source of funding of Examination Committee**

2.2 Tasks and Requirements of the Programme

2.2.2. Accreditation Committees

Program General Secretariat

- Serves as administrative body and coordinator of the program.
- Provides the link and the central point of communication of the program with OIC-Stat Com, applicants and accredited OStat certified Official Statistics Professionals.
- There is no decision yet as to how the formation and funding of the Program General Secretariat will be established.

2.2 Tasks and Requirements of the Programme

2.2.3. Cost Related to the Implementation of Accreditation Programme

- No discussions and decisions as to how the OStat program will be funded or financed for operations and maintenance.
- Sponsorship and fund generation may be sought by OIC-Stat.
- Future sources of funds may include official statistics training materials, short courses and workshops opportunities.
- Suggested non-refundable fee between USD 50-100 can be charged for application (inclusive of testing and a one-time reapplication)

2.2 Tasks and Requirements of the Programme

2.2.3. Cost Related to the Implementation of Accreditation Programme

1. Operations costs of the two accreditation committees (Program General Secretariat and Examination Committee).
2. Other costs related to the examination venue/testing centers,
3. *Honorarium* or remuneration of committee members or consultants,
4. Official examination printing
5. Printing and distribution of certificates,
6. Marketing and publicity related costs
7. Development of study materials
8. *Automated test scoring machines*,
9. Probable costs of outsourcing the examination preparation or test scoring
10. Official website operations, security and maintenance

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**3. CONCLUSIONS
AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

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3. Conclusions and Recommendations

- WG3 finalized the processes and requirements of OStat accreditation
- WG3 recommends immediate implementation of three levels (Basic, Intermediate and Advanced) separately with a gap of one year starting with Basic level in the first year.

3. Conclusions and Recommendations

- Critical OIC Stat Com decision and approval on establishment with budget and funding of the two committees – Program General Secretariat (administrative) and Examination Committee (technical) are required for OStat initial three years operation.
- Critical OIC Stat Com decision and approval on the OStat certification and accreditation validity and renewal procedures.
- Critical OIC Stat Com decision and approval on procedures to handle disciplinary matters on accredited individuals as well as termination of accreditation either voluntarily or as a result of disciplinary action.

THE END

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