



Payment Facilitator Certification Guide

Visa Supplemental Requirements

Version 1.3



November 2025

Visa Public

Important Information on Copyright

© 2025 Visa. All Rights Reserved.

The trademarks, logos, trade names and service marks, whether registered or unregistered (collectively the "Trademarks") are Trademarks owned by Visa. All other trademarks not attributed to Visa are the property of their respective owners.

Note: This document is a supplement of the *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules*. In the event of any conflict between any content in this document, any document referenced herein, any exhibit to this document, or any communications concerning this document, and any content in the *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules*, the *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules* shall govern and control.

Contents

- Introduction and Purpose 4
- Audience 4
- References..... 4
- 1. Payment Facilitators Requirements in CEMEA 4
- 2. Certification Process 5
- 3. Probation and Termination 16
- Appendix 17
- Terminology 17

Introduction and Purpose

This document is a supplement of the *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules*. In the event of any conflict between any content in this document, any document referenced herein, any exhibit to this document, or any communications concerning this document, and any content in the *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules*, the *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules* shall govern and control.

This document sets out requirements for Payment Facilitators certification process and guidelines that is required to be passed by Payment Facilitator prior to entering into the Payment Facilitator Agreement with Visa, as specified in the *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules*.

Audience

This document is for Payment Facilitator applying for Payment Facilitator certification covering the requirements, timings, and applicable fees of the Payment Facilitator certification.

References

Requirements for Payment Facilitators to enter into the Payment Facilitator Agreement with Visa are specified in the *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules*.

Detailed information on Visa risk standards is specified in [Visa Acceptance Risk Standards \(VARs\)](#) and [Payment Facilitator and Marketplace Risk Guide](#).

1. Payment Facilitators Requirements in CEMEA

In the CEMEA Region: A Payment Facilitator must enter into the Payment Facilitator Agreement with Visa and must be certified by Visa within Visa Ready Acceptance Certification in every country of operation.

In the CEMEA Region: An Acquirer that contracts with a Payment Facilitator must ensure and obtain confirmation from Visa that its Payment Facilitator entered into Payment Facilitator Agreement with Visa and is certified by Visa.

A Payment Facilitator is a third-party agent (TPA) that can (i) sign a merchant acceptance agreement with a merchant on behalf an Acquirer, and/or (ii) receive settlement proceeds from an Acquirer, on behalf of the underlying seller (known as a Sponsored Merchant or “sub Merchant”).

TPAs that are not classified as a Payment Facilitator, as specified in the *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules*, are not eligible for Payment Facilitator Certification. The responsibility for correctly identifying the type of TPA rests solely with an Acquirer.

2. Certification Process

Before Visa authorizes a Payment Facilitator to provide Payment Services to Visa Acquirers and Sponsored Merchants, the Payment Facilitator must provide evidence satisfactory to Visa that it can fulfill all of its obligations and acknowledge the responsibility to fulfill all of its obligations under the Payment Facilitator Agreement, including all applicable requirements to Payment Services, as specified in the *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules* and *Visa Acceptance Risk Standards (VARs)* and to ensure lack of the Payment Facilitator's actions (omissions), which in Visa's opinion may cause damage to the Visa-owned marks.

For the purpose of validating that a Payment Facilitator satisfies the Minimum Requirements and Quality-Related Requirements, Visa Ready Acceptance Certification must be completed by the Payment Facilitator in line with the process and schedule described herein.

To ensure continued compliance with all the Minimum Requirements and Quality-Related Requirements, Visa is entitled to conduct a re-assessment, as required but not more than once a year.

Enrollment Procedure

The Certification Procedure is initiated upon submission of the designated [Certification Intake Form](#), which Visa acknowledges as the sole valid method for requesting Certification. Certification Intake Forms that include public domain contact information shall be deemed non-compliant and will not be accepted by Visa.

Change of Payment Facilitator contacts person or employees mentioned in the Certification Intake Form should be immediately communicated to CEMEAPayfacCertificationProgram@visa.com. Failure to provide timely notification may result in withdrawal/rejection of the Certification application or Probation/Termination of the Conditional Participation Agreement (CPA) or PF Agreement as applicable.

Upon acknowledgment of the Certification application, the Visa Payment Facilitator Certification Team shall determine whether the Payment Facilitator is eligible to participate in the Certification Program and shall assign a dedicated Program Manager. The assigned Program Manager may contact the Payment Facilitator to request additional information or clarification, as necessary.

As part of the Certification process, the Payment Facilitator must provide the following:

1. [The Certification Questionnaire](#)
2. Application package with supporting documents as listed below must be submitted by a Payment Facilitator by email to the assigned Program Manager by copying the CEMEAPaymentFacilitatorsTeam@visa.com

A Certification application shall be deemed complete only upon Visa's receipt of the Certification Intake Form, the Certification Questionnaire, and the complete application package, as confirmed by the assigned Program Manager.

Payment Facilitators Certification team reviews the documents submitted by the Payment Facilitator and determines whether the application is approved or rejected. Where a Payment Facilitator does not meet the required standards such application for certification will be rejected with a pathway to remediate and then re-submitted.

During the certification process, Payment Facilitator should communicate with Visa from business domain emails mentioned in the Intake form and the Certification Questionnaire.

Payment Facilitators operating in multiple jurisdictions

Payment Facilitators using the same policies, processes and capabilities across their subsidiaries and the parent entity are eligible for a group application. To support a group application, the Payment Facilitator is required to provide the following information:

- 1) Certification Intake Form sent from a group/parent entity listing all affiliated entities and markets of operation.
- 2) Payment Facilitator regulatory license in each country of operation.
- 3) PCI DSS Attestation of Compliance of each entity handling payment cardholder data.
- 4) Organizational chart of each entity and a group organizational chart showing the relationship/ownership between all the legal entities.
- 5) An official letter from a Payment Facilitator's C-level executive from headquarters of the parent entity confirming that all the Payment Facilitator operations are performed by the same representatives, using the same tools/solutions, following the same policies, processes and controls used by the parent company. The C-level executive letter should confirm the Payment Facilitator group is deploying and implementing the same systems, controls and training to meet the local jurisdiction regulations including but not limited to the requirement of having a resident MLRO if mandated by regulation.

Based on the information provided, Visa will confirm whether the Certification assessment can be conducted for the group of entities collectively or advise whether a Conditional Participation Agreement (CPA) and/or Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment must be completed individually for each entity.

Newly established Payment Facilitators seeking to operate in multiple markets are not eligible for group application. Each such entity must obtain Conditional Participation Approval individually.

Payment Facilitators owned by Visa Acquirers

Payment Facilitators that are 100% owned by and provide services exclusively to their Acquirer are exempt from the Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment. Oversight and compliance obligations of such Payment Facilitators remain with the Acquirer. To validate eligibility for this exemption, the Payment Facilitator must provide:

- 1) Corporate registry extract, shareholding statement, or other legal documentation confirming 100% ownership by the Acquirer.
- 2) An official letter from a Payment Facilitator's C-level executive confirming services are provided exclusively through the Acquirer.

Visa Acquirers providing payment facilitation services to other Visa members

Any Visa Acquirer that is operational, actively processing merchant transaction volumes on the Visa network, and intends to operate as a Payment Facilitator in the same jurisdiction is exempt from the Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment.

Application Package

For the purpose of certification, a Payment Facilitator must provide following:

Item	Screening for Conditional Participation Agreement	Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment
Valid licenses issued by local regulatory authorities	Required	Required
PCI DSS Attestation of Compliance	Required	Required
Ownership structure and Ultimate Beneficiary Owners (UBOs)	Required	Required
Compliance organogram	Required	Required
AML/Compliance and sanctions policies and procedures	Required	Required
CDD Client onboarding procedures (KYC)	Required	Required
Sanction screening system	Not required	Required
Transaction monitoring system	Not required	Required
Third party control standards	Not required	Required
AML Audit Report	Not required	Required
Training and Awareness policies	Not required	Required
Record keeping policies	Not required	Required
Merchant Underwriting and Onboarding Policy	Required	Required
Overview / Description of Merchant Due Diligence / Risk Assessment Tool(s)	Not required	Required
Agreement(s) with Operating* Merchants	Template	5 Samples
Application(s) of Operating Merchants	Template	5 Samples
Merchant Termination letter/notification to both merchant and acquirer	Template	Samples
Merchant Activity Monitoring Policy / Process	Required	Required
Investigation Policy / Protocol	Required	Required

Description & Overview of Risk Detection, Investigation & Prevention Monitoring Tools	Not required	Required
Description / Overview of Web-Crawling Solution	Not required	Required (if established)
Fraud (TC40) and Dispute data review process	Not required	Required (if established)

Operating - Merchants are technically enabled and submit purchase transactions on Visa payment credentials into the Payment network.*

All documents provided as part of the Application package should clearly outline steps, criteria, decision-making process and responsible roles for each process. Assessment does not begin unless documentation as per above list is provided in full as confirmed by a Program Manager.

The documentation must be provided in English, along with signed and approved version in original language. If there's no English version available, documentation in other language can be submitted and will be translated using automated tools. Certification Program Manager may reach out and request translation of specific clauses or full documents from the Payment Facilitator.

Application Withdrawal

If the Payment Facilitator fails to provide the requested information within the timeline communicated by Visa, or requests termination of the process, the Certification application may be withdrawn.

Payment Facilitators Certification team notifies the Payment Facilitator of the reasons for withdrawal and specify the withdrawal period, during which the Payment Facilitator shall not be eligible to reapply for Certification.

Assessments and Certification Criteria

A Payment Facilitator must provide Visa with evidence of meeting the following requirements and criteria.

Visa Ready Acceptance Minimum Certification Requirements and Criteria

Underwriting of merchants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An underwriting and onboarding policy aimed to assess the risk of the Merchant, outline risk-based approach in decision making process by appropriately segmenting Merchants into risk categories along with clearly defined steps for accepting and setting up new Merchants, including defined requirements, submission/approval process, and signing authority matrix. • Policy ensures Merchants operate within Acquirer's country of jurisdiction and comply with all relevant regulations and Visa Rules. • If the Merchant is a High-Integrity Risk merchant, Payment Facilitators must ensure the Merchant is registered as a High-Integrity Risk Sponsored Merchant with Visa. • Policy obliges to have Merchant agreements with each of the Merchant to accept Visa payments.
----------------------------------	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy outlines the controls are in place to prevent merchant onboarding that may potentially harm the Visa payment system, the Visa brand, or submit illegal transactions to VisaNet Payment Facilitator has control to screen Merchants through Visa Merchant Screening Service (VMSS) and/or a comparable Terminated Merchant File to determine if it was previously terminated. • Payment Facilitator reviews and assesses the risks of Merchant’s website and URLs before onboarding.
Merchant Agreements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five merchant agreement samples of onboarded and operating merchants* (including merchant Card Acceptor IDs)
Merchant Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five merchant applications samples of onboarded and operating merchants* (including merchant Card Acceptor IDs)
Onboarding of merchants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure appropriate merchant category code (MCC) reflects the core business of every merchant • Merchant descriptor is either “Doing Business As” (DBA) name or legal name of the merchant
Merchant activity monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment Facilitator monitors merchants’ transaction activity at least on daily basis to detect and prevent fraud or other forms of illegal or brand damaging activity
Merchant website monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment Facilitator has a process and tools to proactively identify merchant website changes or new merchant websites with an offering that violate the Visa Rules and Regulations
Data quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment Facilitator identifier (PFiD) and Sponsored Merchant identifier (SM ID) are populated in authorization requests and clearing records
Rules Violations history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No violation of the Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules within the past 6 calendar months
Risk management program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No identification in the Visa risk management program within the past 6 calendar months
PCI DSS validation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valid Attestation of Compliance (AOC) and Record of Compliance (ROC) is available
Corporate governance and management oversight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior management is committed to promoting a culture of compliance • Senior management is setting the right tone across organizational functions at all levels • Organization has a dedicated Compliance and AML function • The Compliance/AML function operates autonomously and is adequately resourced

Regulatory requirements and licensing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment Facilitator meets all applicable regulatory requirements including licensing and registration in the country(-ies) of operation
Sanctions screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment Facilitator employs a comprehensive sanctions screening solution that fully complies with applicable regulation, including but not limited to the sanctions administered by the U.S. Office of Foreign Assets Control • Payment Facilitator must provide evidence of a sanctions screening tool or solution. This includes a screenshot from the Payment Facilitator’s database showing sample sanctions screening results (names may be blurred for privacy reasons).
Transactions monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment Facilitator leverages a tailored transaction monitoring solution designed to effectively detect and report any suspicious merchant activity, ensuring it aligns with the business model and customer database • Payment Facilitator must provide a screenshot from its database illustrating a sample suspicious activity or transaction scenario.
Policies and procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive compliance and AML policies and procedures are developed and enforced
Third party controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the Payment Facilitator relies on third parties for any aspect of its AML/Sanctions program, comprehensive third-party supervision policies and procedures, including thorough due diligence and periodic review, are in place.
Internal and independent audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment Facilitator conducts regular independent AML audits through either internal or external auditors • Latest independent AML audit report should be completed in the past 24 months • AML audit findings are timely and fully addressed
Training and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment Facilitator’s employees undergo regular mandatory compliance and AML training • Evidence of employee and Senior Management acknowledgment of AML training completion must be provided.
Client due diligence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment Facilitator conducts comprehensive, risk-based due diligence on its clients according to documented policies and procedures
Record keeping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment Facilitator upholds record keeping policies in accordance with applicable regulations • Records of Sponsored Merchants’ files are available and accessible • A screenshot from the Payment Facilitator’s database showing a sample merchant file with relevant information must be

provided. If applicable, evidence of periodic updates to the merchant file should also be included.

A New Payment Facilitator and an Emerging Payment Facilitator are required to commence operations under the Conditional Participation Agreement (CPA) with Visa prior to completing the Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment. The Conditional Participation Agreement has the following conditions:

- Operations are limited to one year, during which the Payment Facilitator must complete the Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment. If the Payment Facilitator fails to complete the Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment within one year, the Payment Facilitator’s Conditional Participation Agreement will automatically lapse.
- Payment Facilitators cannot onboard or process card absent transactions related to the following Merchant Category Codes:

Merchant Category Codes (MCCs) Card Absent transactions only	Transaction Jurisdiction (Domestic, International)
Adult Content – MCC 5967	All*
Dating and Escort Services – MCC 7273	All*
Gambling – MCC 7995	All*
Pharmacies - MCC 5122, 5912	International (refer to Note 1 for additional details)
Crypto Merchants: exchanges, wallet providers or on-ramp providers – MCC 6051, 6012, with transactions required to use Special Condition Code 1, 2, 3, 4, or 7	All* (refer to Note 2 for additional details)
Cyberlockers and similar remote digital file-sharing services – MCC 4816	All*
Games of Skill – MCC 5816	All*
High Integrity Risk Financial Trading Platforms – MCC 6211	All*
Outbound Telemarketing – MCC 5966	All*
Subscription “Negative Option” Merchants – MCC 5968	All*
Tobacco Sales – MCC 5993	International (Refer Note 1 for additional details)

All* - Includes both Domestic and International transactions.

Note 1: Only online pharmacy or tobacco sales merchants offering international shipping. Domestic-only shipping merchants are exempt.

Note 2: Cryptocurrency Indicators: Introduction of special condition Indicators 1- 4 in addition to existing 7 for MCC 6012* and MCC 6051**

- (1) Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) or tokenized deposits,
- (2) Stablecoins categorized as fiat-backed,
- (3) Blockchain native tokens or coins,
- (4) Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs).

- (7) If the specific type of digital currency cannot be determined at the time of transaction or does not fit into new categories
- Payment Facilitators cannot onboard or process both card present and card absent transactions related to the following Merchant Category Codes:
 - Airlines, Air Carriers – MCC 3000 to 3350
 - Airlines and Air Carriers (Not Elsewhere Classified) – MCC 4511
 - Car Rental Agencies - MCC 3351 to 3441
 - Car Rental Agencies (Not Elsewhere Classified) – MCC 7512
 - Lodging — Hotels, Motels, Resorts – MCC 3501 to 3838
 - Lodging — Hotels, Motels, Resorts, Central Reservation Services (Not Elsewhere Classified) – MCC 7011
 - Travel Agencies and Tour Operators – MCC 4722
 - Railroads – MCC 4011
 - Local and Suburban Commuter Passenger Transportation, Including Ferries – MCC 4111
 - Passenger Railways – MCC 4112
 - Steamships and Cruise Lines – MCC 4411
 - Direct Marketing – Travel Related ARR – MCC 5962
- A Payment Facilitator must not onboard or process transactions for marketplaces.

A Payment Facilitator's identification under any Visa Risk Management Programs (including but not limited by VIRP (Visa Integrity Risk Program), TLD (Transaction Laundering Detection), VAMP (Visa Acquirer Monitoring Programs), sub-routing of transactions or suspicious activity identified under Visa Anti-Money Laundering program may result in immediate termination of Conditional Participation Agreement at Visa's sole discretion.

Visa reserves the right to request additional information or apply further limitations or restrictions until the Payment Facilitator completes the Visa Payment Facilitator certification process.

Certification rejection and remediation

Following factors prevent Payment Facilitator from successful completion of Certification:

1. **Performance Issues:** Persistent identifications in Visa Risk Management Programs (including but not limited by VIRP (Visa Integrity Risk Program), TLD (Transaction Laundering Detection), VAMP (Visa Acquirer Monitoring Programs), sub-routing of transactions, or suspicious activity identified under the Visa Anti-Money Laundering program.
2. **Document and/or control deficiencies:** Based on CPA or Certification review, Visa identified that Payment Facilitator has provided incomplete or insufficient documentation and/or Payment Facilitator's risk control environment has deficiencies in policies, controls or capabilities that do not meet the standards specified in the Visa Acceptance Risk Standards (VARS) and the Payment Facilitator and Marketplace Risk Guide, or AML standards.

Based on the assessment of the Payment Facilitator's performance criteria stated herein, if the assessment results require remediation, Visa will inform the Payment Facilitator of the exact reasons

and timelines for remediation along with the necessary controls, documents, or processes to be remediated or addressed, the expected next steps and key deadlines.

The Payment Facilitator will have 30 to 90 days to complete the remediation and resubmit the updated plan to Visa. In certain cases, Payment Facilitator may be restricted from entering into new relationships with Acquirers until the remediation is successfully completed and Certification/CPA is approved.

During the remediation period, except for the reason of Document Deficiencies, entering into relationships with Visa Acquirers in order to provide payment facilitation services will be prohibited until the Payment Facilitator provides required remediation satisfactory to Visa. Entering into to any new relationships with Visa Acquirers and/or Sponsored Merchants for providing Payment Services can be resumed upon written Visa confirmation.

If Payment Facilitator fails to successfully complete remediation within mentioned timelines the Certification case is rejected with right to re-apply in 12 months from the rejection date.

If Payment Facilitator Certification Request is rejected Payment Facilitator is obliged to inform their Acquirer(s) and suspend operations within 60 calendar days from the date of Rejection. Acquirer(s) should terminate Payment Facilitator registration(s) with Visa within 60 days mentioned above. Failing to do so is subject for Non-Compliance actions from Visa towards Acquirer(s).

Certificate of Completion and Certification Agreement

Upon completion of the Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment, a Payment Facilitator that successfully got certified will receive the status of Visa Certified Payment Facilitator acknowledged as part of the Certification Agreement between Visa and Payment Facilitator.

Payment Facilitators approved as per CPA procedure sign Conditional Participation Agreement which does not mention a Certified Status.

Payment Facilitator is required to provide their Certification Agreement or Conditional Participation Agreement with Visa to the Acquirer as the evidence of obtaining Certified/CPA Status with Visa. Acquirers should submit PF Agreement as part of documentation package to obtain PFid.

Certificate of Completion is provided to the Payment Facilitator after all of the below is completed:

- Certification fee/CPA fee is paid to Visa
- Annual fee is paid to Visa
- The Payment Facilitator Agreement is signed by both Visa and the Payment Facilitator

If a Payment Facilitator fails to execute the Conditional Participation Agreement or PF Certification Agreement within two months from the date the agreement is provided (via DocuSign or any other method), the Certification case is rejected with right to re-apply in 12 months from the rejection date.

Certification Fees

Once a Payment Facilitator's eligibility for the Certification Program has been confirmed, the Visa Payment Facilitator Certification Team will issue the Statement of Work. The Payment Facilitator must sign and return the Statement of Work within seven (7) calendar days of receipt. Failure to return the signed Statement of Work within this timeframe will result in Visa withdrawing the Payment

Facilitator's application for Certification, and the application will be closed. Each Certification submission attempt is subject to a fee; if the screening is unsuccessful, the fee will still apply.

One-time Certification fee or CPA fee for a Payment Facilitator specified in the [Visa Fee Schedule](#) to be paid directly by the Payment Facilitator. The CPA Fee is payable in case of a CPA extension. Payment Facilitators that have no access to the [Visa Fee Schedule](#) should request this information from their Sponsoring Acquirer(-s). Certification fee is applied in case of Re-Certification.

Payment Terms

Annual fee specified in the [Visa Fee Schedule](#) is paid annually. For a Payment Facilitator admitted under Conditional Participation Agreement the annual fees must be paid once it completes Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment and obtains Certificate of Completion. Visa will provide access to educational benefits to support Payment Facilitator readiness and successful certification.

Invoices for the one-time Certification fee or CPA fee, as well as the annual fee, must be settled within the payment deadline specified by the Certification Team, which will not exceed two (2) months from the invoice date. If payment is not received by the deadline:

- A Certificate of Completion will not be issued to the Payment Facilitator.
- If the Payment Facilitator already has a Conditional Participation Agreement or Payment Facilitator Certification Agreement with Visa, the Agreement and the Payment Facilitator's registrations with any Visa Acquirers will be terminated.

Fee Exceptions

The CPA fee or Certification fee is not applicable for:

- Payment Facilitators that are 100% owned by an Acquirer and provide services exclusively through that Acquirer.
- Payment Facilitators holding a valid Visa acquiring license at the time of application.

If a Payment Facilitator does not hold a Visa acquiring license at the time of application, the CPA fee or Certification fee will be charged.

Eligibility for Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment Following a CPA

A Payment Facilitator that has operated under a Conditional Participation Agreement for a minimum of nine (9) months may apply for the Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment. To qualify, the Payment Facilitator must demonstrate transaction volumes reported by its respective Acquirer(s) in accordance with *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules*, with the PF ID correctly indicated in all transaction messages, average monthly transaction payment volumes must be exceeding USD 100,000 (based on last 6 calendar months data), and must have meet all documentary and procedural requirements for the Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment. If the Payment Facilitator operating under a CPA does not qualify for the above-mentioned requirements, the current CPA agreement may be extended until the Payment Facilitator is eligible for a Visa ready acceptance assessment.

Extension of the Conditional Participation Agreement

If, after operating under a Conditional Participation Agreement for twelve (12) months, a Payment Facilitator does not have sufficient transaction volumes to qualify for full Certification, Visa may offer the Payment Facilitator the option to remain in the Conditional Participation Agreement environment by extending the Conditional Participation Agreement. A CPA fee is payable for such extension.

To initiate an extension request, the Payment Facilitator must submit a completed [The Certification Intake Form](#) at least two months prior to the expiry of its current Conditional Participation Agreement.

The following documentation must accompany the request:

- A letter, signed by a C-level executive of the Payment Facilitator, confirming that:
 - The Payment Facilitator continues to operate under the same license, which remains valid at the time of the Conditional Participation Agreement extension application; and
 - There have been no changes in the list of senior management (specifically the CEO/Director and MLRO), ownership structure, or beneficial ownership since the original Conditional Participation Agreement was signed.

Re-Certification

A Payment Facilitator is required to re-certify every 36 months or at Visa's request based on on-going monitoring but not more than once every 12 months. Visa may allow less frequent re-certification at its sole discretion based on the results of the previous Visa Ready Acceptance Certification and results of ongoing monitoring.

If Payment Facilitator Certified with Visa is planning to expand its operations to a new market, Payment Facilitator is required to provide following documentation to Visa:

- 1) Payment Facilitator regulatory license in the new country. Typically, a local license is required in each jurisdiction.
- 2) PCI DSS Attestation of Compliance for the new entity
- 3) Organizational chart of the entity in the new country and a group organizational chart showing the relationship/ownership between the two legal entities.
- 4) An official letter from a Payment Facilitator C-level executive confirming that Payment Facilitator operations will be performed by the same representatives, using the same tools/solutions, and following the same processes. The C-level executive letter should confirm the PF Group is deploying and implementing the same systems and controls and training to meet the local jurisdiction regulations including but not limited to the requirement of having a resident MLRO if mandated by regulation.

Based on the information provided, the Visa will provide confirmation on the extension of the Certification Agreement for the new market or advise on required CPA/Certification procedure for the new entity.

3. Probation and Termination

Visa has a right to temporarily revoke the Payment Facilitator's certification for a specified period ("Probation Period") to provide Payment Services for any or all Visa Acquirers and Sponsored Merchants in case of Payment Facilitator is in breach of the Payment Facilitator Agreement, applicable law requirements, including, but not limited to applicable sanctions screening requirements, insufficient due diligence standards, as determined by Visa, to enable Payment Facilitator to comply with the Minimum Requirements and Quality-Related Requirements, as well as a result of Payment Facilitator's merger, consolidation, or substantial change of ownership or financial condition.

Visa has a right to permanently terminate the Payment Facilitator Agreement or Conditional Participation Agreement and revoke its approval for a Payment Facilitator to provide any or all Payment Services if any of the following:

- failure to pay the one-time Certification fee or CPA fee, as well as for the annual fee, within the specified timeline
- failure to meet any of the Payment Facilitator's Performance Criteria as set forth in section 3 "Certification Process"
- failure to rectify violations during the Probation Period to Visa's satisfaction Willful Violation and failure of its remediation based on Visa's request
- multiple and persistent identifications in Visa Risk Programs (including but not limited to Visa Acquiring Monitoring program (VAMP), Visa Integrity Risk Program (VIRP), Transaction Laundering Detection (TLD), Account information Security Programs) associated with the Sponsored Merchants of the Payment Facilitator or violation of applicable laws
- identified non-compliance with Visa transaction coding requirements, i.e., Payment Facilitators, and their Sponsored Merchants should be clearly identified in all transaction messages. Visa-assigned Payment Facilitator identifiers (PFID) should be available in all authorization, clearing, and settlement records. Payment Facilitator must assign their own unique identifiers for each Sponsored Merchant (SMID)
- If Visa reasonably believes that immediate revocation of a Payment Facilitator is necessary to preserve the integrity of the Visa brand and system or to prevent any fraudulent action against Visa or Visa Acquirers or Sponsored Merchants. This includes, but is not limited to, instances where Payment Facilitator is unable or unwilling to take appropriate remedial action to address the issue.

Following the receipt of the probation or termination notice from Visa, the Payment Facilitator must not enter in any new relationships with Visa Acquirers and/or Sponsored Merchants for providing Payment Services.

If a Payment Facilitator Agreement or a Conditional Participation Agreement is terminated, the Payment Facilitator may submit a new application for Certification no earlier than twelve (12) months from the effective date of termination.

Terminology

Emerging Payment Facilitator	A Payment Facilitator that processes Visa transactions in partnership with a Visa acquiring member in the CEMEA region, has been assigned a Payment Facilitator identifier (PFiD) by Visa and processes no more than USD 100,000 (or local currency equivalent) of transaction volume with Visa per month over past 6 calendar months. Only transaction volumes accompanied by a PFiD, as reported by Visa acquiring member in accordance with <i>Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules</i> , are counted toward this calculation.
Certificate of Completion	A document confirming successful fulfillment of all certification requirements and the status of Visa Certified Payment Facilitator.
Certification Status	The current standing of a Payment Facilitator within the certification process based on its Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment results.
Certified Payment Facilitator	A Payment Facilitator certified by Visa to provide Payment Services.
Conditional Participation Agreement	Subtype of Payment Facilitator Agreement signed by a New Payment Facilitator or an Emerging Payment Facilitator that allows them to commence operations and process Visa transactions in a limited mode while their Certification is underway.
High Integrity Risk Merchant	Merchants operating in the domains of Online Gambling/Betting, Online Pharma, Adult Content, Dating Services, Crypto, and others, as specified in the Visa Integrity Risk Program Guide .
Minimum Requirements	Mandatory criteria, including the Payment Facilitator's performance criteria pursuant to section 2 "Certification Process" that must be met entirely to obtain the status of Certified Payment Facilitator.
New Payment Facilitator	A Payment Facilitator that does not have a registered PFiD with Visa and has not yet processed any Visa transactions. A Payment Facilitator that has been operating without proper Visa registration does not qualify as a New Payment Facilitator.
Operating Payment Facilitator	A Payment Facilitator that processes Visa transactions in partnership with a Visa acquiring member in the CEMEA

region, has been assigned a PFiD by Visa and does not qualify as an Emerging Payment Facilitator.

Payment Facilitator

A Visa non-member entity that deposits transactions, receives settlement from or contracts with an Acquirer on behalf of a Sponsored Merchant, and is classified as a Payment Facilitator, as specified in the *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules*.

Payment Facilitator Agreement

A contract outlining the terms of a Payment Facilitator's role in providing Payment Services to Sponsored Merchants and obligations to follow the standards and requirements set by Visa.

Payment Services

Service(s) provided by a Payment Facilitator to its Sponsored Merchants under the acceptance contract to deposit transactions and receive settlement from the Acquirer.

Probation Period

A trial period during which a Payment Facilitator's performance is closely monitored by Visa.

Quality-Related Requirements

Criteria evaluating the operational efficiency and quality of a Payment Facilitator's processes.

Remediation Plan

A strategic plan for correcting identified deficiencies in compliance or performance of a Payment Facilitator to obtain the status of Visa Certified Payment Facilitator.

Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment

Assessment performed by Visa to measure a Payment Facilitator's performance versus Minimum Requirements and Quality-Related Requirements.

Visa Ready Acceptance Certification

The process for a Payment Facilitator to obtain approval from Visa to operate on a specific market. Visa Ready Acceptance Certification is complete once Payment Facilitator did all of the following:

- Passed Visa Ready Acceptance Assessment
- Paid certification and annual fees
- Entered into Payment Facilitator Agreement with Visa

Willful Violation

A deliberate breach of the *Visa Core Rules and Visa Product and Service Rules* or terms of the Payment Facilitator Agreement.