



REVISED STANDARDIZATION MARK SCHEME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS [FAQs] – Jan 2021

1. What is the revised S-MARK scheme?

It is a Standardization Mark scheme used by KEBS to certify locally manufactured goods to a 2-yr validity period which came to effect on July 1, 2020

2. How different is the new scheme from the previous?

It raises the validity period from 1 to 2 years

3. What happens to the applications already made on previous scheme but have not been processed up to permit?

Applicants have an opportunity to upgrade to the revised scheme by paying the applicable fees

4. What happens to the already existing valid permits?

They will run up to expiry after which they will be renewed on the new scheme terms

5. Suppose a product is certified to a Diamond Mark of Quality which has a 3-yr validity period?

The corresponding S-Mark shall ride on the same and shall have a 3-yr validity period too without any additional fee

6. Apart from raising the validity period, what other advantages does the new scheme provide?

It allows applicant to submit test reports of his/her samples from other accredited/designated laboratories thus reducing the turnaround time for certification.

7. What are accredited/designated laboratories?

Accredited laboratories are those labs that hold valid accreditation to ISO-IEC 17025 by accrediting bodies such as KENAS (Kenya National Accreditation Service).

A designated Lab is one that has been designated by KEBS as such, having met the requirements of EAC-SQMT act of 2006

8. Where can one get the contacts/details of accredited/designated laboratories?

The list of KENAS accredited testing laboratories can be found under the Directory of Accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies on the KENAS website <https://kenas.go.ke/testing-and-calibration/>

9. What are the charges for certification to the various firm categories?

Type of firm	Insp. Fees Per Site	Permit Fees	Remarks
LME	40,000	15,000	PER PROD./ BRAND/ SITE
MME	20,000	Consolidated/ No additional charge	Max. of 3 products and 10,000 for every additional product
SME	10,000	Consolidated/ No additional charge	Max. of 3 products and 10,000 for every additional product

For Fortification Mark, additional fee of ksh 20,000 is applicable

Note that payments are exclusive of vat.

10. What are the turnover limits/firm categories for LME, MME and SME?

LME = Large Manufacturing Enterprise: Annual turnover over ksh 500,000

MME = Medium Manufacturing Enterprise: Annual turnover over ksh 200,000 and up to ksh 500,000

SME = Small Manufacturing Enterprise: Annual turnover up to 200,000