

Students' FAQ: Transition to Digital Certificates

Overview

What are digital certificates and badges?

Digital certificates and badges are **secure, instantly accessible credentials** that showcase your course achievements.

Why is SSA transitioning to digital certificates?

The transition reflects SSA's **commitment to modernization and sustainability**:

- ✓ **Faster delivery** – no waiting for the post.
- ✓ **Easy sharing** – add to **LinkedIn, email signatures, and resumes**.
- ✓ **Secure storage** – never worry about losing your certificate.
- ✓ **Instant verification** – each certificate includes a **QR code** for employers to scan.

When will digital certificates become the standard?

Digital Certificates will launch on Earth Day: April 22, 2025. From here all CSS certificates will be issued digitally by default.

Are digital certificates recognized professionally?

Yes! Your digital certificate contains official metadata and a QR code so employers can easily verify it.

Are all SSA courses moving to digital certificates?

For now, only the Certified Sake Sommelier (CSS) course is transitioning. More courses will follow.

FAQs

How will I receive my digital certificate and badge?

- ✓ Your certificate and badge will be sent to your email after you pass your course.
- ✓ Make sure your Sake Educator has your correct email address.

What should I do if I don't receive my digital certificate?

Check your **spam/junk folder** first. If it's still missing, contact your **Sake Educator**.

How do I share my digital certificate?

- ✓ Add it to **LinkedIn**
- ✓ Download it as a **PDF** for resumes
- ✓ Use it in your **email signature**

How can someone verify my digital certificate?

Each certificate includes a QR code:

- ✚ Employers and industry professionals can scan it to verify your credentials instantly.
- ✚ This sets SSA apart from competitors that don't offer digital verification.

Can I still request a paper certificate?

Yes! **Ask your Sake Educator** if you want a paper certificate.

Will I still receive a physical badge?

Yes! All students will receive a physical badge at no extra cost.

Can I request a digital certificate for a course I completed before April 2025?

Yes! Ask your Sake Educator to request a digital version of your past certificate. A £25 fee applies for this service.

Do I need to create an account to receive my digital certificate?

No, SSA does not require students to create an account or share additional personal data.

Who should I contact if I have more questions?

First, ask your **Sake Educator**.