



## Sterling's Guide to PCI QIR Certification for Resellers and Integrators

**To help reduce the risk of data theft, Visa has announced that small merchants (Level 4 merchants) must use payment solutions providers that have achieved Qualified Integrator and Reseller (QIR) certification.**

According to recent forensic investigations, small merchants remain targets of hackers attempting to compromise payment data. Investigators have also identified links between data breaches and lack of PCI best practices that can lead to system compromises.

Effective January 31, 2017, all Level 4 merchants using a Reseller or Integrator for payment applications and/or terminal installation services must engage only a Registered PCI QIR Professional. Additionally, all Level 4 merchants must ensure annual validation of PCI DSS compliance.

### Benefits of PCI QIR Certification

- Stand out among your competition with the PCI QIR logo: You will be authorized to use the QIR logo on your promotional materials, helping you stand out from your competition and showing your commitment to payment security.
- Become the merchant's trusted advisor: As U.S. merchants are moving toward the adoption of EMV technology, you can leverage QIR training to advise them as they evaluate their payment infrastructure and security controls.
- Promote yourself by being listed on the PCI SSC website: QIR-certified solution providers will have increased visibility among merchants and acquirers through the listing of qualified providers on the PCI website.

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### How to Become QIR Certified

At least one qualified person from your company needs to become QIR certified. To receive certification, you'll take an online course and a certification exam. Click here for a step-by-step guide to becoming QIR certified.

The price for QIR training and certification is \$395 per individual. To register go to:  
[https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/assessors\\_and\\_solutions/qir\\_webform](https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/assessors_and_solutions/qir_webform)

As your channel partner, Sterling Payment Technologies is committed to providing the help and resources you need to meet Visa's requirements and deadline.

For more information and a step-by-step guide to becoming QIR certified, click on the links below:

- QIR Qualification Requirements
- QIR Implementation Statement
- QIR Implementation Instructions