

How can the SCQF help your business?

The SCQF may help you to:

Compare the different qualifications of applicants:

With the range of qualifications available, it can be difficult to decide which is the most appropriate for the job. The SCQF helps you to compare the qualifications of applicants.

Develop your workforce and avoid costly training mistakes:

The SCQF can help you to plan on-going training and development for all your staff by using the Framework as a reference point for qualifications and learning when selecting appropriate training programmes.

Gain credit for your in-house training programmes:

If you are an employer and interested in having an in-house training programme credit-rated, you can contact:

- The Scottish Qualifications Authority (www.sqa.org.uk, email: creditratingservice@sqa.org.uk);
- Scottish Higher Education Institutions to find out about what credit rating services they offer – further information can be found on the Universities Scotland website www.universities-scotland.ac.uk
- Scotland's Colleges – in some instances, it may be possible for a local college to provide a credit rating service. For further information, contact the Association of Scotland's Colleges (www.ascol.org.uk).

Is the SCQF just for Scotland?

Yes, however, the use of credit frameworks is growing and links are being made within the UK and Europe. This may help your business if you plan to recruit from other countries.

A useful leaflet which allows you to compare qualifications in the UK and Ireland can be downloaded using the following link – http://www.scqf.org.uk/downloads/QualsCrossBoundaries_Sco.pdf

Want more information on the SCQF?

There is more information on the SCQF website including examples of how the SCQF is being currently used - http://www.scqf.org.uk/who_are_you.asp

Or you can contact the **SCQF** at:

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70 Cowcaddens Road
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G4 0BA

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The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Understanding Qualifications: A Guide to the SCQF for Employers



The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework

SCQF LEVELS	SCHOOL & COLLEGE QUALIFICATIONS	COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY QUALIFICATIONS	SCOTTISH VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS
12		Doctorate	
11		Masters	**SVQ 5
10		Honours Degree *Graduate Diploma/Certificate	
9		Ordinary Degree *Graduate Diploma/Certificate	
8		Higher National Diploma Diploma of Higher Education	**SVQ 4
7	Advanced Higher	Higher National Certificate Certificate of Higher Education	
6	Higher		**SVQ 3
5	Intermediate 2 Credit Standard Grade		**SVQ 2
4	Intermediate 1 General Standard Grade		**SVQ 1
3	Access 3 Foundation Standard Grade		
2	Access 2		
1	Access 1		

* These qualifications are differentiated by volume of outcomes and may be offered at either level.

****Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs)** and **Modern Apprenticeships (MAs)** are currently being credit rated with the first phase now complete and the results are available on www.scqf.org.uk and www.sqa.org.uk.



“ Qualifications have changed so much, I don’t understand them anymore ... ”



As an employer can you relate to this?

The **Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF)** is designed to help both employers and learners understand and compare the range of qualifications available in Scotland.

It does this by giving qualifications a **level** and **credit** points. The Framework has 12 levels – ranging from National Qualifications at Access Level 1 up to Doctorate at Level 12.

As you can see from the table, the **level** of a qualification shows how difficult the learning is. When two qualifications are at the same level it means that they have the same level of difficulty.

Credit points are simply a way of describing the amount or volume of learning – of knowledge, skills or competence needed to achieve the qualification.

The SCQF diagram shows the mainstream qualifications offered by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA), colleges and universities. As more qualifications are credit rated, they will be added to the Framework. These will include the SQA’s new National Qualification Group Awards (National Certificates and National Progression Awards) and Professional Development Awards. Details of the full range of available qualifications are available on the websites of SQA, universities and colleges. The SCQF allows you to compare the new qualifications to those with which you are more familiar.