



**National Qualifications 2014  
Internal Assessment Report  
Accounting and Finance**

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification in National Qualifications in this subject.

# National Courses

Titles/levels of National Courses verified:

- DF47 10 Financial Accounting (Intermediate 1)
- DF47 11 Financial Accounting (Intermediate 2)
- DF47 12 Financial Accounting (Higher)
- DF47 13 Financial Accounting (Advanced Higher)

## General comments

In general, the verifiers found that the evidence submitted was of a good standard. The majority of centres demonstrated sound understanding of the national standard and applied this standard to the marking of NABs.

Some centres, however, are still not using the most up-to-date NABs. Centres must check SQA's secure website to ensure that they have used the current NAB. Failure to do so could result in a centre being Not Accepted and candidates being penalised by having to sit another NAB.

## Course Arrangements, Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

The evidence presented by centres clearly demonstrated good knowledge of Course Arrangements, Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials.

## Evidence Requirements

In general, centres demonstrated sound understanding of the evidence required for computational questions. However, as with previous years, some centres were lenient in the marking of theory. This was evident at all levels, particularly for candidates achieving a borderline pass.

Centres are reminded that they should apply the marking conventions given at the start of Section 2 of the NAB. Some centres are still failing to apply penalties for extraneous items and arithmetical errors, or allowing for consequentiality.

## Administration of assessments

All centres used SQA NABs in their assessment and, in general, marked to the appropriate standard.

The majority of centres showed evidence of internal verification procedures.

Some centres' verification systems were very rigorous. The evidence submitted showed the original mark and the verifier's mark along with details of discussions on the appropriate mark to be awarded.

## **Areas of good practice**

It was noted by verifiers that, in general, centres showing good practice:

- ◆ presented all documents for verification in an orderly manner
- ◆ submitted annotated NAB solutions showing additional answers accepted
- ◆ completed mark grids
- ◆ provided details of their verification procedures and applied these rigorously
- ◆ added helpful comments to scripts, giving candidates valuable feedback

## **Specific areas for improvement**

In order to ensure the national standard is achieved, centres should:

- ◆ check that they are using the most up-to-date NABs
- ◆ have high expectations with regards to layout of accounts/statements
- ◆ use actual marks, not ticks, when marking NABs
- ◆ apply the marking conventions given in Section 2 of the NAB
- ◆ introduce and document procedures for verbal assessment, where appropriate