

How we will support you

Our team of Accreditation and Regulation Managers are allocated a portfolio of industry sectors and awarding bodies respectively. Through our extensive work with SSC/SSBs and awarding bodies across the UK, we have sector and qualification specific expertise which allows us to provide high quality, targeted advice across a broad range of areas.

Having these established links allows us to build relationships with your organisation and, as an enabling regulator, to support you in meeting your objectives.

Contact us and find out more

Visit www.sqa.org.uk/accreditation for more information or contact the Accreditation Officer on **0845 213 5249**.



An assurance of quality



Who we are

SQA is the statutory national awarding and accrediting body for Scotland.

The accreditation function is discharged by SQA Accreditation. The Education (Scotland) Act 1996 established the Accreditation Committee, which oversees the work of SQA Accreditation and ensures that there are appropriate governance arrangements in place between the two functions of SQA.

The accreditation function is essentially a regulatory function and by setting and specifying the requirements for accrediting qualifications, we are able to support the needs of learners and employers in Scotland. We do this through promoting and maintaining public confidence in accredited qualifications and approved awarding bodies. SQA Accreditation also supports the Scottish Government's policy agenda, in particular, the skills strategy for Scotland, *Skills for Scotland: A Lifelong Skills Strategy*.

What we do

- approve awarding bodies
- accredit qualifications other than degrees
- regulate approved awarding bodies including conducting visits to approved awarding bodies' centres
- work with other UK Qualifications Regulators to align our processes and systems, where appropriate
- provide advice and guidance to Sector Skills Councils/ Standards Setting Bodies (SSC/SSBs)
- recommend National Occupational Standards approval
- approve qualification products such as SVQ qualifications structures
- confirm, where possible, the SCQF credit and level of accredited qualifications
- we are a member of the Modern Apprenticeship Group (MAG) which approves Scottish Modern Apprenticeship Frameworks (MAF)
- monitor accredited qualification trends
- provide advice and guidance to Scottish Government.

Benefits of working with us

For approved awarding bodies, SQA Accreditation can provide

- an independent review of your systems and procedures
- confidence to your stakeholders and customers that your systems are independently quality assured
- a highly skilled team to offer support and guidance

We also provide advice to awarding bodies that operate or are thinking of operating in Scotland, as well as links to a network of Scottish stakeholders.

For SSCs/SSBs, we can help you:

- ensure that Scottish employers have a say in the design and development of learning at all levels and in all settings
- engage and develop strong working relationships with awarding bodies and key stakeholders for your sector
- ensure that Labour Market Intelligence (LMI) and Sector Qualifications Strategy Action Plans are fit for purpose for Scotland
- ensure that where Scottish qualification products are defined within a UKCES contract, they are:
 - fit for purpose for Scotland
 - approved by us
 - market ready
- develop a Scottish MAF which could expedite MAG approval
- raise awareness of Scottish policy and initiatives at your awarding body and employer forums

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