

## SCOTTISH QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

The **Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)** is an executive non-departmental public body (NDPB) sponsored by the Scottish Government Schools' Directorate. It is the national accreditation and awarding body in Scotland.

SQA works in partnership with schools, colleges, universities and industry to provide high quality, flexible and relevant qualifications and assessments — embedding industry standards where appropriate. We strive to ensure that SQA qualifications are inclusive, accessible to all, that they provide clear progression pathways, facilitate lifelong learning and recognise candidate achievement.

SQA is ambitious for Scotland, determined to play a full and committed part in ensuring that the Scottish people and economy benefit from a qualifications system that is all-embracing and delivering and meeting Scotland's needs.

There are approximately 1,470 centres approved to offer our range of qualifications.

Our qualifications include:

- **National Qualifications (including Standard Grade and National Units and Courses at Access, Intermediate, Higher and Advanced Higher levels)**
- **Skills for Work Courses**
- **Professional Development Awards**
- **National Progression Awards**
- **National Certificates**
- **Higher National Certificates and Diplomas (HNC/HND)**
- **Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs)**
- **Customised Awards**

Find out more: [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)

## CONTACT DETAILS

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## Further Information

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The Partnership Action for Continuing Employment (PACE) is central to the Government's Economic Recovery Programme, in particular the commitment to provide support to businesses and employees facing redundancy situations. By providing skills development and employability support, PACE aims to minimise the time people affected by redundancy are out of work.

***'SQA is committed to participating in the work of the PACE Partnership to ensure that Scotland and its people emerge from the economic downturn in the strongest possible position.'***

SQA is the national awarding body in Scotland. We work in partnership with schools, colleges, universities and industry to provide high quality, flexible and relevant qualifications and assessments — embedding industry standards where appropriate.

We strive to ensure that SQA qualifications are inclusive, accessible to all, that they provide clear progression pathways, facilitate lifelong learning and recognise candidate achievement.

There are SQA qualifications for everyone — students in schools and colleges; trainees and apprentices; people who already have qualifications and those who don't; people who are in employment and those who aren't.

To be competent in employment, employees must have the experience, skills, knowledge and attitude they need, and the ability to apply them appropriately in their job.

Employability, enterprise and entrepreneurship are essential features in qualification development and, as the national awarding body for Scotland, SQA is committed to ensuring its qualifications reflect the importance of these in order to meet the needs of learners, employers and the Scottish economy.

Our Customised Awards service is used by many employers and training organisations. Our service provides a variety of different kinds of help which range from an advisory service to full-scale award development, offering tailor-made training and qualifications packages for individual organisations. The awards can be developed in any occupational area and at any level.

Customised Awards are normally work-based vocational qualifications and are benchmarks of competence which measure the skills of employees as they carry out their normal work activities.

Find out more about our qualifications for learners at [www.sqa.org.uk/learners](http://www.sqa.org.uk/learners)

Find out more about our products and services for employers at [www.sqa.org.uk/employers](http://www.sqa.org.uk/employers)