

SQA Advanced Qualifications

The Pathway to Success





Why deliver SQA Advanced Qualifications?

SQA Advanced Qualifications are short-cycle Higher Education qualifications developed in partnership with colleges, universities and industry and specifically designed to meet the requirements of education professionals and the skills needs of employers.

SQA Advanced Certificates and Diplomas are education pathways at Level 4 and 5 enabling students to progress onto further study or directly into employment.

Our Advanced Qualifications are recognised and valued by our network of university progression partners in the UK and beyond allowing progression to a related undergraduate degree.



How do SQA Advanced Qualifications work?

SQA Advanced Certificates and SQA Advanced Diplomas are made up of unit credits (one credit represents approximately 40 hours of timetabled learning and 40 hours of self-guided learning and study):

- SQA Advanced Certificates are made up of 96 SCQF credit points, at SCQF level 7, and usually take one year to complete
- SQA Advanced Diplomas are made up of 240 SCQF credit points, at SCQF level 8, and usually take two years to complete

Who are SQA Advanced Qualifications for?

SQA Advanced Qualifications are suitable for a range of learners:

- school leavers
- adult returners to education
- employees who wish to enhance their career prospects
- people who wish to start their own business

Available courses

SQA Advanced Qualifications are available in a wide range of subjects from Accounting to Travel and Tourism.

- Accounting
- Administration and Information Technology
- Administration and Information Technology (Fixed Framework)
- Architectural Technology
- Art
- Built Environment
- Business
- Business (Fixed Framework)
- Business with Accounting (Fixed Framework)
- Business with HRM (Fixed Framework)
- Business with Information Technology (Fixed Framework)
- Business with Marketing (Fixed Framework)
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Aided Architectural Design & Technology
- Computer Aided Draughting and Design
- Computer Science
- Computing
- Computing: Networking
- Computing: Networking (Fixed Framework)
- Computing: Software Development
- Computing: Software Development (Fixed Framework)
- Computing: Technical Support
- Computing: Technical Support (Fixed Framework)
- Construction Management

- Electrical Engineering
- Electronic Engineering (Fixed Framework)
- Electronics
- Engineering Systems
- Events
- Financial Services (Fixed Framework)
- Global Trade and Business (Fixed Framework)
- Hospitality
- Hospitality Management
- Hospitality Management (Fixed Framework)
- Marine Electro-Technology
- Marine Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Musical Theatre
- Nautical Science
- Occupational Therapy Support
- Petroleum Engineering
- Professional Cookery
- Professional Dance Performance
- Quantity Surveying
- Retail and Retail Management
- Supply Chain Management (Fixed Framework)
- Travel and Tourism
- Travel and Tourism (Fixed Framework)

“SQA Advanced Qualifications equip our students with real-world skills to kickstart their career.”

St David's College, North Wales

A pathway to university and further study

SQA Advanced Qualifications don't just qualify learners for work. They are higher education qualifications which can also enable advanced entry into many undergraduate degree programmes in universities and higher education institutions around the world. Some qualifications allow direct entry into second or third year of a degree programme.

SQA's network of progression partners (pictured) recognise SQA Advanced Certificates and Diplomas, and provide advanced entry onto related degree programmes.

Please note that individual universities may ask for additional entry requirements.



Progression partners



A pathway to employment

SQA Advanced Qualifications provide learners with both the practical skills needed to do a job and the theoretical knowledge an employer will expect them to have.

The qualifications are based on industry standards, meaning employers can have peace of mind employing graduates.

Learners who have completed an Advanced Qualification have specific occupational knowledge along with employability skills, giving them a better understanding of the workplace, which will make them an asset to an organisation.



Get in touch

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“Delivering SQA Advanced Qualifications was made easy with a dedicated contact and excellent support.”

Grimsby Institute