

SCQF
Levels

12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

Doctorate*

Masters*

Honours Degree*

Ordinary Degree*

Advanced
Qualifications

National
Progression
Awards/
National
Certificates

Professional
Development
Awards

12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

*Benchmark qualifications of higher education institutions

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) helps people to understand and compare different qualifications in Scotland.

It does this by using two measures:

Levels (1–12) show how complex the learning of a qualification is.

Credit points indicate the volume of learning required to achieve a qualification.

One SCQF credit point represents 10 notional learning hours.

Qualifications created by Qualifications Scotland are developed using SCQF level and credit points. This information is shown on the Scottish Qualifications Certificate. The Ready Reckoner shows the level and credit points for Units, Courses and Group Awards.

Group Awards		
Type	SCQF level	Credit points
SQA Advanced Diploma	8	240
SQA Advanced Certificate	7	96
National Certificate	4–6	72
National Certificate	2–3	54
Professional Development Awards	6–12	varies
National Progression Awards	2–6	varies

The SCQF compares to other qualification frameworks around the world, with the SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma equivalent to Levels 4 and 5 respectively on the English and Northern Irish RQF (Regulated Qualifications Framework), the UK FHEQ (Framework for Higher Education Qualifications) and level 5 of the EQF (European Qualifications Framework).

Entry requirements for jobs and courses often vary within a country. This means you will need to check specific requirements with the employer or institution for the job or course that you are interested in.

More information on the SCQF, and Qualifications Scotland's interactive ready reckoner, can be found at sqa.org.uk/scqf