

	Scotland				England, Wales and N Ireland		
SCS requirement	Framework level	SQA National Units, Courses and Group Awards	Higher Education	Scottish Voc Quals	Framework level	Examples of Qualification	Other Quals
	12		Doctorates		level 8	Specialist Awards	
	11		Masters/Postgraduate Certs	SVQ 5	level 7		
	10		Honours Degree Graduate Diploma		level 6	Certificate or Diploma in Management	
	9		Ordinary Degree Graduate Certificate				
	8		Higher National Diploma (HND) Diploma in Higher Education	SVQ 4	level 5		
	7	Advanced Higher	Higher National Certificate (HNC) Certificate in Higher Education		level 4		
	6	Higher		SVQ 3	level 3	NVQ 3, A Levels	ILM FLM (part3)
Minimum Standard	5	Intermediate 2 Credit Standard Grade		SVQ 2	level 2	NVQ 2, GCSEs Grades A-C	ECDL (part 2)
	4	Intermediate 1 General Standard Grade		SVQ 1			
	3	Access 3 Foundation Standard Grade			level 1	NVQ 1, GCSEs Grades D-G	ECDL (part 1)
	2	Access 2					
	1	Access 1			Entry	Entry 1, 2 and 3	

SCS entry qualifications	
EO	3 Highers (A-C), or equivalent
AO	5 SCE O Grades (A-C) or Standards Grades (1-3), or equivalent
AA	2 SCE Ordinary Grades (A-C) or Standard Grades (1-3), or equivalent
SGB2	No academic qualifications required

Notes:

All qualifications fall into either the Scottish or English framework at a particular level (Scotland 1-12/England Entry-8)
For example, ECDL Part 2 is an English level 2 award provided by the British Computing Society
Level 3 Certificate in First Line Management is an English Level 3 award provided by the Institute of Leadership and Management
City and Guilds provide various NVQs and SVQs and applicants should specify the level at which these were attained
Standard Grades were formerly known as O Grades

*If you have any queries / questions regarding the qualifications of a candidate you can contact the SQA Customer Contact Centre on
Tel: 0845 279 1000 for more information*

Country	Qualification	UK equivalent
Australia	Depends on state but most common is a Certificate of Education upon leaving school	no exact equivalent
Austria	Reifezeugnis/Maturazeugnis is gained on leaving school on a grade 1 (very good) to 5 (failure) system. Grade 4 is a pass.	no exact equivalent
Belgium	Depends on community: French/German or Flanders. School leaving certificates are: Certificat d'Enseignement Secondaire Superieur; Abschlusszeugnis der Oberstufe des Sekundarunterrichts; Diploma van het Toelatingsexamen	no exact equivalent
Canada	State Certificates or Diplomas are awarded upon leaving school	no exact equivalent
Croatia	Matura (Secondary School Leaving Diploma)	no exact equivalent
Denmark	Folkeskolens Udvidede Afgangspøve	Acceptable in lieu of GCSE (except English Language)
France	Brevet de Technicien Superieur	HND/N(S)VQ level 4
Germany	Realschulabschluss;Mittlerer Schulabschluss	Acceptable at grades 1-4 in lieu of GCSE (except English language)
Greece	Apolytirion of Gymansio	Acceptable at marks 11 or better in lieu of GCSE (except English language)
Iceland	Sveinsprof	Acceptable in lieu of N (S) VQ Level 3
Ireland (Eire)	Ardeistimeireacht (Leaving Certificate): Ordinary Level Higher Level	Acceptable at grade C or better in lieu of GCSE Acceptable at grade C or better in lieu of Scottish Higher
Netherlands	HAVO or VMBO	Acceptable at grade 6 or better in lieu of GCSE (except English language)
Norway	Vitnemal - grunnskolen	Acceptable in lieu of GCSE (except English Language)
Romania	Secondary vocational Diploma	Comparable to NVQ3
Russia	Attestat o Srednem Obshchem Obrazovanii	Acceptable at Grade 11 in lieu of GCSE (except English Language)
Spain	Graduado en Educacion Secundaria (GES)	Acceptable in lieu of GCSE (except English Language)
Sweden	Slutbetyg fran Grundskola	Acceptable at grade G or better in lieu of GCSE (except English language)
Turkey	Lise Bitirme Diploması/Devlet Lise Diploması	Same standard as at least GCSE
USA	High School Graduation Diploma	acceptable in lieu of GCSE at Grade C or above