

Criteria for Qualifications at Level 4 and Above



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The criteria

Introduction

1. The following criteria will be used as the basis for the development and accreditation of all qualifications at level 4 and above.
2. The criteria were previously published within *The Statutory Regulation of External Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland* (2004).

Content of qualifications at level 4 and above

3. Qualifications must promote the development or enhancement of general higher-level skills and abilities. Individual qualifications must identify how relevant skills and abilities are developed alongside sector / occupationally-specific skills and understanding, and how these skills and abilities are reflected in the assessment of the unit or qualification.
4. All qualifications must include a significant, mandatory component, which will normally take the form of a core of units at the same level as that of the whole qualification. This will apply to all awards with the same title. The extent of the mandatory proportion of the qualification will vary, but will normally be at least 40 per cent.

Assessment in qualifications at level 4 and above

5. The assessment scheme for a full qualification must identify how candidates can integrate knowledge, skills and, where appropriate, competence across units. Assessment should encourage candidates to apply and reflect on their studies, both within and across units and produce evidence to demonstrate ability across a range of units.

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