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Guidance

How you make an application for recognition of overseas qualifications

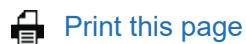
Updated 21 December 2022

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Background

If you did not get your qualification in England you will have to make an application for recognition to work as a qualified member of staff in an early years setting in England.

If you received your qualification in Scotland, Wales, or Northern Ireland you will need to check [Qualifications achieved in the United Kingdom](#) to confirm if you can be counted as a qualified member of staff in an English setting.

Applications for recognition

As of 5 September 2022, those holding early years qualifications awarded outside of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will need to apply for an Early Years Statement from Ecctis.

For further information about the Early Years Statement, please see the [Ecctis website](#).

Please note that if you submitted your application to the Department for Education's early years team prior to 5 September 2022, you do not need to reapply to Ecctis, as these applications will be honoured by the Department for Education.

If you are recognised as a qualified teacher in your country, you may be able to obtain qualified teacher status (QTS). This would allow you to be counted within level 3 or 6 staff:child ratios in an early years setting in England. For more information, please see [guidance on how to apply for QTS](#).

Level 2 English and maths qualifications

To count within the [early years foundation stage](#) staff:child ratios at level 3, early years educators who achieved their qualification after September 2014 must also hold suitable level 2 English and maths qualifications.

For English, these are:

- functional skills qualification in English at level 2

- GCSE or International GCSE qualification in English language and/or literature to at least grade C (grade 4)
- key skills qualification in communication at level 2
- A level or AS level qualification in English language and/or English literature to at least grade E
- O level qualification in English to at least grade C
- CSE grade 1 English (language)
- Basic skills certificate L2 - certificate in adult literacy
- British Sign Language (BSL) for people who use BSL as their primary language

Also recognised: Scottish, Northern Irish and Welsh equivalents.

For maths, these are:

- functional skills qualification in maths at level 2
- GCSE or International GCSE qualification in maths to at least grade C (grade 4)
- key skills qualification in application of number at level 2
- A level or AS level qualification in maths or pure maths and/or further maths to at least grade E
- O level qualification in maths to at least grade C
- CSE grade 1 maths
- Basic skills certificate L2 - certificate in adult numeracy

Also recognised: Scottish, Northern Irish and Welsh equivalents.

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