

ACCA education recognition status

AN OVERVIEW
OF STATUTORY
AND EDUCATION
ACCREDITATION HELD
BY ACCA AND OUR
QUALIFICATIONS

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Introduction

WHAT IS 'EDUCATION RECOGNITION'?

Education recognition refers to the official recognition of ACCA as an awarding body and ACCA's delivery and provision of qualifications at a defined standard or level by educational and/or regulatory authorities.

To ensure ACCA's qualifications provide maximum benefit and value to our members, ACCA seeks to attain and maintain recognition of ACCA and our qualifications. Recognition can be sought from regulators in both the relevant regulated professions and education environment.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF 'EDUCATION RECOGNITION'?

- **Quality assurance**
ACCA's recognised qualifications provide the assurance of independent oversight of the quality of our qualifications, and in some instances nationally recognised benchmarking of the qualifications' levels.
- **Employer recognition**
Employers can be confident in our members' level of ability, ensuring that they have the expertise they need. Members have access to job opportunities that are befitting the ACCA designation.
- **A portable qualification**
Having a qualification which is recognised by key regulatory and education authorities around the world provides a greater choice of locations for our members to work where all the benefits of the ACCA designation can be realised. Through [Mutual Recognition Agreements](#) with other professional bodies, ACCA members can also benefit from the professional mobility that comes through joint membership of both bodies.

- **Funding opportunities**

Recognition of ACCA's qualifications with some governmental agencies may assist with access to public funding towards tuition.

- **Academic credit**

ACCA qualifications can be used to gain access to, and exemptions from, a number of other academic qualifications. Students who go on to study the Oxford Brookes University bachelor degree can also benefit by gaining a recognised UK undergraduate degree.

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

The information provided here details the recognition given to ACCA and our qualifications in both educational and regulatory environments.

We have also provided a general introduction to ACCA and the qualifications that we award. The information can be used to inform employers, evaluation services and educational institutions of the current endorsement by third party regulators as a means to demonstrate the standard and quality of our qualifications.

ABOUT 'EDUCATION RECOGNITION' INFORMATION

The global education recognition environment is constantly evolving with developments in regulation continually impacting how qualifications are recognised. Information provided here is correct at June 2017 and where possible, links to external websites have been provided in gold text to verify the information. This document is subject to continual review with the most up to date version available online.

About ACCA

ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) is the global body for professional accountants. We aim to offer business-relevant, first-choice qualifications to people of application, ability and ambition around the world who seek a rewarding career in accountancy, finance and management.

Founded in 1904, ACCA has consistently held unique core values: opportunity, diversity, innovation, integrity and accountability. We believe that accountants bring value to economies in all stages of development. We aim to develop capacity in the profession and encourage the adoption of consistent global standards. Our values are aligned to the needs of employers in all sectors and we ensure that, through our qualifications, we prepare accountants for business. We work to open up the profession to people of all backgrounds and remove artificial barriers to entry, ensuring that our qualifications and their delivery meet the diverse needs of trainee professionals and their employers.

We support our 188,000 members and 480,000 students in 181 countries, helping them to develop successful careers in accounting and business, with the skills required by employers. We work through a network of 95 offices and centres and more than 7,110 Approved Employers worldwide, who provide high standards of employee learning and development. Through our public interest remit, we promote appropriate regulation of accounting and conduct relevant research to ensure accountancy continues to grow in reputation and influence.

ACCA's core qualifications are:

- **ACCA Qualification** – a professional qualification enabling members to reach the highest level in accountancy
- **Advanced Diploma in Accounting and Business** – If you decide to complete the ACCA Qualification, you will be awarded the Advanced Diploma in Accounting and Business on your way to completing the ACCA Qualification.
- **Diploma in Accounting and Business** – the Diploma is suitable for those aspiring to work or already working in the following types of roles:
basic bookkeeping, trainee accountant in a commercial organisation or accounting practice, accounts clerk in public sector.
- **Intermediate Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting** – this certificate is suitable for those aspiring to work or already working in a bookkeeping or cost clerk role in an SME or a range of accounting administration roles within an accounting department of a larger organisation or financial shared service centre.

- **Introductory Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting** – this certificate is suitable for those aspiring to work or already working in a junior accounts clerk/ junior bookkeeper role in an SME or in a range of junior accounting administration roles within an accounting department of a larger organisation or financial shared service centre.

Additionally Oxford Brookes University (OBU) in partnership with ACCA offers a **BSc (Hons) in Applied Accounting** centred on the needs of employers for practical, professional accounting, and an MBA which is designed to broaden business understanding and enhance strategic decision making.

The University of London in partnership with ACCA offers an **MSc in Professional Accountancy**. This is an integrated programme which allows study towards an academic and professional qualification. There are customised pathways for ACCA students, affiliates and members.

In keeping with ACCA's commitment to lifelong learning, it has launched a range of further **qualifications** and a leading edge continuing professional development (**CPD**) **scheme**. These programmes are designed to suit the needs of accountants, finance-professionals and non-finance professionals with financial responsibility, at all stages of their careers.

ACCA GOVERNANCE

ACCA Council is the elected governing body of ACCA and is responsible for determining ACCA's strategic policy objectives and monitoring organisational performance in relation to the organisational budget. The Council is elected by its members on a one member, one vote basis. The Council acts as a trustee for the membership; as such, it is ultimately responsible for ACCA affairs and is accountable to the members. Its responsibilities to the UK Privy Council, under the Royal Charter granted by Her Majesty the Queen, and under statute, require it to act in the public interest. Council has the key role in ACCA's affairs and Council members have a responsibility to act in the best interests of ACCA as a whole. The Council devises strategy for ACCA's Executive Team, and identifies the key performance measures which will be used both to monitor the work to implement that policy and to develop future policy. ACCA's Executive Team is responsible for the delivery of the strategy, and Council provide governance of the process and performance management.

ACCA ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Name: Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Acronym: ACCA

Main address: ACCA, The Adelphi, 1/11 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6AU, United Kingdom

Local office address: [Our national offices](#)

Our qualifications

To qualify for membership of ACCA, students must complete the ACCA Qualification, consisting of 14 professional examinations, an ethics module and three years' practical experience gained before, during or after the examinations. In line with ACCA's statutory requirements, entry to the ACCA Qualification requires a UK university matriculation level qualification. ACCA also provides entry level qualifications. The foundation-level qualifications consist of awards, including certificates, diplomas and a Certified Accounting Technician (CAT) Qualification. The Diploma in Accounting and Business is equivalent in level to year one of a UK bachelor degree, and is suitable for entry and exemption to the ACCA Qualification.

ACCA QUALIFICATION

In addition to responding to the needs of its stakeholders, ACCA has designed a qualification which also embeds the global accounting education standards set by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC). The ACCA Qualification is fully IFAC compliant. There is a strong focus on professional values, ethics and governance. These skills are essential as the profession moves towards strengthened codes of conduct, regulation and legislation with an increasing focus on

professionalism and ethics in accounting. They are examined at the highest level in the ACCA Qualification, and are a core element of students' practical experience requirements.

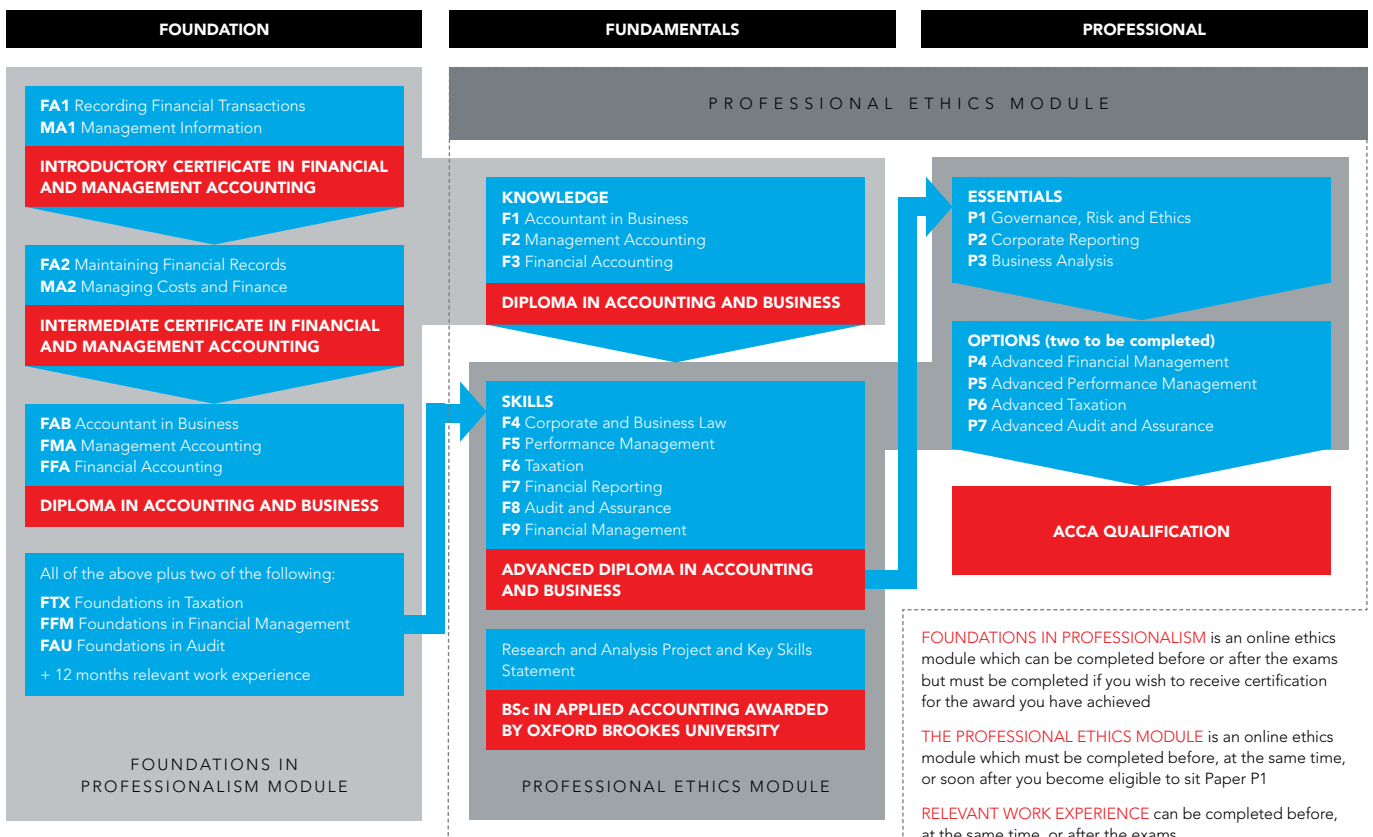
The ACCA Qualification has been designed to provide all the competences required of professional accountants and auditors. In accordance with modern practice, ACCA takes the view that employers demand that professional accountants and auditors apply a wide business and global perspective to their work.

FOUNDATION-LEVEL QUALIFICATIONS

The foundation-level qualifications include certificates, diplomas and a Certified Accounting Technician (CAT) Qualification. These flexible awards focus on the core skills of financial accounting and management accounting; and the wider role of the accountant in business at higher levels.

The range of awards means employers can pick the level of qualification which most appropriately meets their business needs. In addition, it provides students with flexible entry points with certification awarded at each level, allowing students to tailor the awards, making them an attractive and relevant choice for employers.

ACCA QUALIFICATIONS STRUCTURE



ACCA qualifications's learning hours

As a global accountancy body, the learning profiles of ACCA students vary greatly. ACCA promotes flexibility in its range of qualifications and learning methods, and therefore ACCA does not prescribe learning hours to its students. However, we have provided notional learning hours for each of the ACCA examinations in the tables below for guidance.

Notional learning hours are typically understood to represent the average time it would take a learner to complete a unit of learning, in this case each of the ACCA Qualification examinations. They include guided learning hours, directed study, practical and work-based learning, examination preparation time and examination time. Guided learning hours are the hours in which study is directed by a tutor, usually with the tutor present. This can include tutorials, face-to-face delivery or directed open/distance learning and assessment. There may be variations in definitions of learning hours and credit systems between national education systems.

TABLE 1 LEARNING HOURS ACCA EXAMINATIONS

ACCA QUALIFICATION LEVEL	ACCA PAPER	NOTIONAL LEARNING HOURS	TOTAL NOTIONAL LEARNING HOURS
Professional Level papers – Options (2 papers)	P7, Advanced Audit and Assurance	400	800
	P6, Advanced Taxation	400	
	P5, Advanced Performance Management	400	
	P4, Advanced Financial Management	400	
Professional Level papers – Essentials	P3, Business Analysis	400	1200
	P2, Corporate Reporting	400	
	P1, Governance, Risk and Ethics	400	
Fundamentals – Skills module Advanced Diploma in Accounting and Business	F9, Financial Management	400	2400
	F8, Audit and Assurance	400	
	F7, Financial Reporting	400	
	F6, Taxation	400	
	F5, Performance Management	400	
	F4, Corporate and Business Law	400	
Fundamentals – Knowledge module Diploma in Accounting and Business	F3/FFA, Financial Accounting	300	900
	F2/FMA, Management Accounting	300	
	F1/FAB, Accountant in Business	300	

TABLE 2 LEARNING HOURS FOUNDATION-LEVEL EXAMINATIONS

ACCA QUALIFICATION LEVEL	ACCA PAPER	NOTIONAL LEARNING HOURS	TOTAL NOTIONAL LEARNING HOURS
Fundamentals – Knowledge module Diploma in Accounting and Business	F3/FFA, Financial Accounting	300	900
	F2/FMA, Management Accounting	300	
	F1/FAB, Accountant in Business	300	
Specialist certificates	FFM, Foundations in Financial Management	200	200
	FTX, Foundations in Taxation	255	255
	FAU, Foundations in Audit	175	175
Intermediate Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting	FA2, Maintaining Financial Records	220	370
	MA2, Maintaining Costs and Finances	150	
Introductory Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting	FA1, Recording Financial Transactions	240	400
	MA1, Management Information	160	

ACCA regulatory status

ACCA is a self-regulating professional membership body for chartered certified accountants globally. Our professional qualification is a membership requirement, which meets employer specifications for working in accountancy related roles, both regulated and unregulated. Further to a submission made to the UK Government department (at that time to the Department of Trade and Industry, now the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills), ACCA's professional examinations are recognised in law to qualify company auditors, making ACCA a Recognised Qualifying Body (RQB).

ACCA is also officially recognised by the UK Government as a Recognised Supervisory Body (RSB), responsible for regulating statutory auditors. According to the UK's Companies Act 2006, Insolvency Act 1986 and Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, only the accountancy bodies – ACCA, ICAEW, ICAI, ICAS and AAPA are able to authorise members to conduct the legally restricted works including audit, insolvency and investment business work in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland.

In summary, part of ACCA's official accreditation from regulatory bodies in the UK and globally, is as follows:

- **International Federation of Accountants (IFAC):** ACCA is a founding member body of IFAC. ACCA follows the IFAC Compliance Program to meet the membership requirements. More information on the IFAC Compliance Program is available at: www.ifac.org/ComplianceProgram
- **Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies (CCAB):** ACCA is a founding member of the CCAB in the UK. CCAB provides a forum in which matters affecting the profession as a whole can be discussed and co-ordinated and enables the profession to speak with a unified voice to government. Further details can be found at: www.ccab.org.uk
- **UK Government Privy Council** – Incorporated through Royal Charter – requirement for at least 75% of members to have first degree level standard qualification, thus the ACCA Qualification is recognised as being at least equivalent to UK bachelor degree. Please see the official Privy Council website for further information click [here](#).
- **European Union (EU):** Article 6 of the EU 8th Company Law Directive, which has been implemented in UK domestic law, states that statutory auditors must have 'passed an examination of professional competence of university final or equivalent examination level', which therefore applies to the level of the ACCA Qualification.

ACCA is also a competent authority for the EU Recognition of Professional Qualifications Directive for 'Chartered Certified Accountant'. The Directive provides for a General System for recognition of professional qualifications. The General System has been established with the purpose of enabling individuals to transfer their qualifications and skills between Member States. Please refer to [Admission to ACCA membership under the European Communities \(Recognition of Professional Qualifications\) Regulations \(Directive 2013/55/EU\)](#) for further details on admission to ACCA membership under the terms of the European Communities (Recognition of Professional Qualifications) Regulations 2015.

- **Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS):** BIS officially granted ACCA RQB and RSB status. RQB status means that the ACCA Qualification officially qualifies statutory auditors in the UK. The relevant text in relation to the level of the ACCA Qualification being at least bachelor degree level is within Schedule 11 of the Companies Act 2006. Number 8 – 1(b) states 'and requiring a standard of attainment at least equivalent to that required to obtain a degree from a university or similar establishment in the United Kingdom'. The full Companies Act 2006 can be located at this address: www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/46/contents. The Professional Oversight Team, part of the UK Financial Reporting Council (FRC), reporting to the UK Government, and providing independent oversight of the auditing and accounting profession, audits ACCA's quality assurance procedures and qualification syllabus and assessments annually. For further information on the Financial Reporting Council (FRC), please visit the following webpage: www.frc.org.uk
- **Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA):** IAASA granted ACCA Recognised Accountancy Body status. A Recognised Accountancy Body is an accountancy body that has been granted recognition under section 930 of the Companies Act 2014. A recognised accountancy body is permitted to authorise its members and/or member firms to perform statutory audits and to register firms from other EU Member States to perform audits under the Companies Act, provided that they satisfy certain additional conditions. The full Companies Act 2014 can be accessed [here](#).

IAASA audits ACCA's quality assurance procedures and qualification syllabus and assessments. For further information on IAASA, please visit the following webpage: www.iaasa.ie/about/index.htm

ACCA regulatory status

- **Insolvency Service:** Insolvency Service: ACCA is a Recognised Professional Body (RPB) under the Insolvency Act 1986 and the Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 1989. This allows ACCA to authorise individuals to undertake insolvency work. The Insolvency Service visits ACCA every three years to review quality assurance procedures around the issue and renewal of insolvency licences, monitoring of practitioners and complaints against practitioners. For further information on the Insolvency Service, please visit the following webpage: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/insolvency-service

As a consequence of legislation in the UK and Ireland, ACCA has statutory monitoring responsibilities in the following areas:

Registered auditors: ACCA members who are responsible for audit work must hold a valid practising certificate and audit qualification. All firms, including sole proprietorships, must hold a firm's auditing certificate to conduct audit work. Those individuals holding a practising certificate and audit qualification, as well as firms holding auditing certificates are subject to monitoring of their practices.

Practising certificate: A member has to obtain three years' training in an Approved Employer – Practising Certificate Development of which at least two years must be after admission to membership, to obtain a practising certificate.

Investment business: In the UK, firms wishing to offer mainstream investment services are authorised and regulated by the [Financial Conduct Authority \(FCA\)](#) but ACCA regulates those firms undertaking only exempt regulated activities. The [Central Bank of Ireland](#) regulates firms that provide investment business services and investment advice in Ireland. ACCA regulates those firms undertaking investment activities.

ACCA educational status

ACCA education status refers to the endorsement of ACCA and our qualifications by bodies concerned with the educational value of our qualifications and the quality assurance mechanisms around their provision.

ACCA has secured recognition by a number of key educational regulators. Official endorsement by education regulators is widely understood by employers, adding value to employer recognition of our qualifications. Education recognition also provides third party quality assurance giving our stakeholders the benefit of impartial scrutiny of our qualifications and ensuring that ACCA is conforming to current 'best practise' in qualification development and delivery.

To support education recognition further, ACCA seeks framework recognition of our qualifications at specific and consistent levels of recognition. Please refer to Appendix 1, specifying these levels.

A qualification framework is an appropriately authorised tool that clearly defines each and every qualification brought under it. It provides a hierarchy of qualifications where learning from a qualification is benchmarked to defined criteria. Frameworks can enable learners to make comparisons between different types of qualification, allowing them to plan their learning and progression. A qualification framework can be specific to one country or region with established framework recognition in one location having potential to support recognition in other countries or regions.

UK EDUCATION RECOGNITION

- **UK Visas and Immigration**

UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) replaced the UK Border Agency in 2013. UKVI are responsible for running the UK's visa service, managing applications from overseas nationals who wish to come to the UK to visit, study or work.

VisasAndNationality service has replaced the Home Office UKVI Points-Based Calculator web pages. This service is run by UK NARIC and provides applicants with documentation that confirms the academic qualification level and/or English language proficiency – as appropriate for an applicant's personal circumstances and immigration route.

- **UK National Recognition Information Centre (NARIC)**
NARIC equates the ACCA Qualification to a UK taught Masters degree. NARIC is the National Agency, managed on behalf of the UK Government, responsible for providing information, advice and expert opinion on vocational, academic and professional skills and qualifications from over 180 countries worldwide. NARIC will verify ACCA Qualification equivalence on individual application to their **Statement of Comparability** service.

- **England – The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual)**

Ofqual regulates qualifications, examinations and assessments in England. Ofqual was set up in April 2010 under the **Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009** and is also covered by the **Education Act 2011**. Ofqual are independent of government and report directly to Parliament.

ACCA is recognised as an awarding organisation by Ofqual and our Foundation-Level qualifications are listed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) (replacing the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF)).

For further details of our qualifications on the RQF please refer to Appendix 2 and for more information on the ACCA qualifications regulated by Ofqual, visit the **Register for Regulated Qualifications**.

The ACCA qualifications are also listed on the UK **Learning Aims Hub**. The Learning Aims Reference number is the reference number for accredited qualifications and funding in England. Please also refer to Appendix 2 for more information on Foundations in Accountancy qualifications on the RQF.

- **Scotland – Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Accreditation**

SQA Accreditation quality assures qualifications offered in Scotland by approving awarding bodies and accrediting their qualifications. SQA Accreditation regulates awarding bodies and their qualifications against published regulatory requirements. SQA Accreditation has approved ACCA as an awarding body and has accredited ACCA's qualifications.

SCQF (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework) promotes lifelong learning in Scotland. ACCA's full suite of qualifications, through their recognition by SQA Accreditation, have been credited and levelled and placed on the SCQF.

Modern Apprenticeships are available across a wide range of sectors and the format of training is decided by the appropriate Sector Skills Council (SSC). ACCA worked with the SSC responsible for the UK's financial, finance and accountancy sectors, the Financial Skills Partnership (FSP), to have ACCA qualifications incorporated in the Accounting Modern Apprenticeship frameworks in Scotland. For further information on Modern Apprenticeships please visit [here](#).

ACCA educational status

- **Wales – Qualification Wales**

Qualifications Wales was established through the **Qualifications Wales Act 2015** as the regulator of non-degree qualifications and the qualifications system in Wales. It is a Welsh Government Sponsored Body, independent of government, and is accountable to the National Assembly for Wales.

ACCA is recognised as an awarding organisation by Qualification Wales and our Foundation-Level qualifications are listed on The Credit & Qualifications Framework for Wales (CQFW).

- **Northern Ireland – The Council for Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA)**

CCEA has responsibility for the regulation of qualifications taken by learners in Northern Ireland, as set out in the **Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1998**.

CCEA Regulation works independently of the Awarding Organisation side of CCEA and is responsible for the quality assurance of qualifications offered in Northern Ireland. The work includes the recognition and monitoring of Awarding Organisations and the evaluation of qualifications against published criteria and conditions.

Further details of the ACCA qualifications regulated by CCEA can be found on the **Register for Regulated Qualifications**.

- **UK Universities**

UK Government approved providers of academic degree qualifications, UK universities, provide credit from their Masters degrees on the basis of the ACCA Qualification, and in some cases incorporate the Professional Level of the ACCA Qualification as the examined element of their Masters degree. UK universities are quality assured by the **Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)** in the UK. The Privy Council in the UK is responsible for approving an institution as competent to grant degrees. Oxford Brookes University in the UK externally assures the ACCA examinations for the award of its BSc (Hons) Applied Accounting, and credit from its MBA and MSc Accounting.

To find out more about entry and exemptions from a particular programme of study on the basis of qualifications awarded by ACCA, please refer to the qualification provider directly.

ACCA has partnerships with a number of leading universities to provide further qualifications. For more information, please refer to the following page: www.accaglobal.com/en/discover/our-partners/academic-partnerships.html

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION RECOGNITION

- **European Qualifications Framework**

The European Qualifications Framework (EQF), agreed upon by the European institutions in 2008, recommends that member states relate their national qualifications systems to the EQF, so that all new qualifications issued from 2012 carry a reference to the relevant EQF level. The EQF acts as a translation device to make national qualifications more readable across Europe, promoting workers' and learners' mobility between countries and facilitating their lifelong learning. The EQF referencing tool can be found [here](#).

- **Irish Government regulator – Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) (previously Higher Education Training and Awards Council (HETAC))**

HETAC aligned the ACCA Qualification to Level 9 of the Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), indicating it is equivalent to the examinations within an Irish Masters degree, which through articulation between the frameworks, also equates to UK Masters degree level. Please refer to the Professional Bodies section on page: www.nfq.ie/nfq/en/awards_in_the_framework.html#higher

Quality and Qualifications Ireland was established on 6 November 2012 under the Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) Act 2012. The new Authority is being created by an amalgamation of four bodies that have both awarding and quality assurance responsibilities: the Further Education and Training Awards Council (FETAC), the Higher Education and Training Awards Council (HETAC), the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland (NQAI) and the Irish Universities Quality Board (IUQB). The new Authority will assume all the functions of the four legacy bodies while also having responsibility for new or newly-statutory responsibilities in particular areas.

- **Malta regulator – Malta Qualifications Council (MQC)**

MQC has mapped the full suite of ACCA qualifications on the Malta Qualifications Framework. The **National Commission for Further and Higher Education (NCFHE)** incorporates the Malta Qualifications Council (MQC) as well as the National Commission for Higher Education (NCHE).

- **Pakistan regulator – Higher Education Commission (HEC)**

HEC equated the ACCA Qualification to a Pakistan Masters in Commerce (MComm). Further information on HEC equivalence can be found [here](#).

- **Pakistan regulator – Inter Board Committee of Chairmen (IBCC)**

IBCC has confirmed that the ACCA Foundation Diploma in Accountancy is equivalent to a Higher Secondary School Certificate. Graduates of the Diploma from 2014 onwards are required to pass three subjects at higher secondary level and then they will become eligible to claim the intermediate equivalence certificate from IBCC.

ACCA educational status

- South African regulator – South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)** SAQA has aligned the ACCA Qualification to Level 8 of the **South African National Qualifications Framework** (NQF), indicating its position at postgraduate level. FASSET, the quality assessor of the providers on the SA NQF, regulate ACCA to ensure our continued provider status in South Africa.
- Barbados regulator – Barbados Accreditation Council (BAC)**
 ACCA is officially recognised as an ‘Awarding Body’ in Barbados by **BAC**.
- Trinidad & Tobago regulator – Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT)**
 ACCA is officially accredited as an ‘Awarding Body’ in Trinidad and Tobago by **ACTT**.

MAPPING OF ACCA QUALIFICATIONS’ INTELLECTUAL LEVELS WITH EDUCATION FRAMEWORK LEVELS

ACCA QUALIFICATION LEVELS	UK FRAMEWORK LEVELS			INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK LEVELS				ACCA FIVE INTELLECTUAL LEVELS
	RQF	SCQF	*FHEQ	Irish NQF	South African NQF	Malta NQF	EQF	
ACCA Professional level		11	7	9	8	7	7	Synthesis and evaluation
Advanced Diploma in Accounting and Business / ACCA Papers F4–F9		10	6			6	6	Application and Analysis
Diploma in Accounting and Business / ACCA Papers F1–F3	4	8	4		5	5	5	Comprehension and application
Intermediate Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting	3	6				4	4	Knowledge and Comprehension
Introductory Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting	2	5				3	3	Knowledge

* validated by Oxford Brookes University (regulated by QAA).

Appendix 1

UK QUALIFICATION EQUIVALENCE

This table specifies the educational standard that each level of the ACCA Qualification and foundation-level qualifications equate to in the UK education system.

ACCA QUALIFICATION	UK NATIONAL QUALIFICATION LEVEL
ACCA Professional Level	Masters degree
ACCA Advanced Diploma in Accounting and Business	Bachelor degree
ACCA Diploma in Accounting and Business / CAT	Certificate of Higher Education
Intermediate Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting	GCE Advanced Level
Introductory Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting	GCSE Level

Appendix 2

FOUNDATION-LEVEL QUALIFICATIONS' RECOGNITION ON THE RQF

Each of the three levels of the foundation-level qualifications, Introductory, Intermediate, and Diploma and Specialist Award levels, are aligned to three distinct levels of the RQF, as detailed in the following table.

* Students only need to successfully complete **Foundations in Professionalism** once, if they complete one or more qualifications from the foundation-level qualifications suite.

** Students are required to complete a **practical experience requirement** to qualify for CAT.

*** The RQF Qualification Number also refers to the Learning Aims Reference for the LARA database.

ACCA QUALIFICATION	ACCA PAPERS		RQF QUALIFICATION TITLE AND LEVEL	RQF QUALIFICATION NUMBER***	UK NATIONAL QUALIFICATION BENCHMARK
Certified Accounting Technician (CAT) <i>Complete Introductory Certificate, Intermediate Certificate, Diploma plus 2 of these 3 optional papers**</i>	FFM Foundations in Financial Management	Foundations in Professionalism Module*	ACCA Level 4 Certificate in Financial Management	601/1075/2	Certificate of Higher Education
	FTX Foundations in Taxation		ACCA Level 4 Certificate in Taxation	601/1074/0	
	FAU Foundations in Audit		ACCA Level 4 Award in Audit	601/1076/4	
Certificates in Auditing, Taxation and Financial Management	FFM Foundations in Financial Management	Foundations in Professionalism Module*	ACCA Level 4 Certificate in Financial Management	601/1075/2	
	FTX Foundations in Taxation		ACCA Level 4 Certificate in Taxation	601/1074/0	
	FAU Foundations in Audit		ACCA Level 4 Award in Audit	601/1076/4	
	Foundations in Professionalism Module*				
Diploma in Accounting and Business	FFA/F3 Financial Accounting	Foundations in Professionalism Module*	ACCA Level 4 Diploma in Accounting and Business	601/0771/6	
	FMA/F2 Management Accounting				
	FAB/F1 Accountant in Business				
	Foundations in Professionalism Module*				
Intermediate Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting	FA2 Maintaining Financial Records	Foundations in Professionalism Module*	ACCA Level 3 Diploma in Financial and Management Accounting	601/0773/X	GCE A Levels
	MA2 Maintaining Costs and Finances				
	Foundations in Professionalism Module*				
Introductory Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting	FA1 Recording Financial Transactions	Foundations in Professionalism Module*	ACCA Level 2 Diploma in Financial and Management Accounting	601/0772/8	GCSE Grades A–C
	MA1 Management Information				
	Foundations in Professionalism Module*				

Appendix 3

ACCA QUALIFICATION RECOGNITION ON THE SCQF

ACCA is accredited as an 'awarding body' by SQA Accreditation. The ACCA qualifications, through recognition by SQA Accreditation, have been credited and leveled for placement on the SCQF.

* Students only need to successfully complete **Foundations in Professionalism** once, if they complete one or more qualifications from the foundation-level qualifications suite.

** Students are required to complete a **practical experience requirement** to qualify for CAT.

ACCA QUALIFICATION	ACCA PAPERS	SCQF QUALIFICATION TITLE AND LEVEL	GROUP AWARD NUMBER	SCOTTISH NATIONAL QUALIFICATION BENCHMARK	
ACCA Professional	P7 Advanced Audit and Assurance	ACCA Professional at SCQF Level 11	R374 04	Masters Degree	
	P6 Advanced Taxation				
	P5 Advanced Performance Management				
	P4 Advanced Financial Management				
	P3 Business Analysis				
	P2 Corporate Reporting				
	P1 Governance, Risk & Ethics				
ACCA Fundamentals - Skills	F9 Financial Management	ACCA Fundamentals – Skills at SCQF Level 10	R373 04	Bachelors (Honours) Degree	
	F8 Audit and Assurance				
	F7 Financial Reporting				
	F6 Taxation				
	F5 Performance Management				
	F4 Corporate and Business Law				
Certified Accounting Technician (CAT) <i>Complete Introductory Certificate, Intermediate Certificate, Diploma plus 2 of these 3 optional papers**</i>	FFM Foundations in Financial Management	Foundations in Professionalism Module*	ACCA Certificate in Financial Management at SCQF Level 7	R364 04	Higher National Certificate
	FTX Foundations in Taxation		ACCA Certificate in Taxation at SCQF Level 8	R363 04	Higher National Diploma
	FAU Foundations in Audit		ACCA Certificate in Auditing at SCQF Level 8	R362 04	
Certificates in Auditing, Taxation and Financial Management	FFM Foundations in Financial Management	Foundations in Professionalism Module*	ACCA Certificate in Financial Management at SCQF Level 7	R364 04	Higher National Certificate
	Foundations in Professionalism Module*				
	FTX Foundations in Taxation	Foundations in Professionalism Module*	ACCA Certificate in Taxation at SCQF Level 8	R363 04	Higher National Diploma
	Foundations in Professionalism Module*				
	FAU Foundations in Audit	Foundations in Professionalism Module*	ACCA Certificate in Auditing at SCQF Level 8	R362 04	
Foundations in Professionalism Module*					
Diploma in Accounting and Business	FFA/F3 Financial Accounting	Foundations in Professionalism Module*	ACCA Diploma in Accounting and Business at SCQF Level 8	R361 04	
	FMA/F2 Management Accounting				
	FAB/F1 Accountant in Business				
	Foundations in Professionalism Module*				
Intermediate Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting	FA2 Maintaining Financial Records	Foundations in Professionalism Module*	ACCA Intermediate Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting at SCQF Level 6	R360 04	Higher
	MA2 Maintaining Costs and Finances				
	Foundations in Professionalism Module*				
Introductory Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting	FA1 Recording Financial Transactions	Foundations in Professionalism Module*	ACCA Introductory Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting at SCQF Level 5	R359 04	National 5 Intermediate 2
	MA1 Management Information				
	Foundations in Professionalism Module*				

Appendix 3

ACCA QUALIFICATION: SCQF CREDITS AND ECTS CREDITS

The table below provides the SCQF credits for each ACCA qualification, detailed into papers.

Scottish qualifications are linked to ECTS or ECTS-compatible credits.

To convert SCQF credit points to ECTS divide the number of SCQF credit points by two.

ACCA QUALIFICATION	ACCA PAPERS	SCQF		EQF	ECTS
		SCQF LEVEL	REGULATOR CREDITS	EQF LEVEL	ECTS CREDITS
ACCA PROFESSIONAL LEVEL		11	200	7	100
Two must be completed from the following options	P7, Advanced Audit and Assurance	11	40	7	20
	P6,, Advanced Taxation	11	40	7	20
	P5, Advanced Performance Management	11	40	7	20
	P4, Advanced Financial Management	11	40	7	20
	P3, Business Analysis	11	40	7	20
	P2, Corporate Reporting	11	40	7	20
	P1, Governance, Risk and Ethics	11	40	7	20
ACCA FUNDAMENTALS – SKILLS		10	225	6	112
	F9, Financial Management	10	40	6	20
	F8, Audit and Assurance	10	40	6	20
	F7, Financial Reporting	10	40	6	20
	F6, Taxation	9	35	6	17.5
	F5, Performance Management	9	35	6	17.5
	F4, Corporate and Business Law	8	35	6	17.5
DIPLOMA IN ACCOUNTING AND BUSINESS		8	50	5	25
	F3, Financial Accounting	8	25	5	12.5
	F2, Management Accounting	8	22	5	11
	F1, Accountant in Business	8	23	5	11.5

If you have a query on any aspect of the information contained here, please contact our global customer contact centre, *ACCA Connect*

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