

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework

SCQF levels	SQA National Units, courses and group awards	Higher Education (HE) qualifications	Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs)	SCQF levels
12		Doctorate		12
11		Masters	SVQ 5	11
10		Honours degree		10
9		Ordinary degree		9
8		HND Diploma of HE	SVQ 4	8
7	Advanced Higher	HNC Certificate of HE		7
6	Higher		SVQ 3	6
5	Intermediate 2/ Credit S Grade		SVQ 2	5
4	Intermediate 1/ General S Grade		SVQ 1	4
3	Access 3/ Foundation S Grade			3
2	Access 2			2
1	Access 1			1

The SCQF has been created by bringing together all Scottish mainstream qualifications into a single unified framework - higher education qualifications; HNCs and HNDs; SQA National Qualifications; and SVQs. There are 12 levels ranging from Access 1 (National Qualification) at SCQF level 1 to Doctorate at SCQF level 12. Each qualification - unit, group of units or larger group award – has also been allocated a number of SCQF credits, each credit representing 10 notional hours of required learning. Doctorates based on a thesis are an exception. The SCQF also offers a means to allocate levels and credit values to other assessed and quality assured learning.

*The positioning of SVQs in the table gives a **broad** indication of their place in the framework. A major project is underway to refine the position of SVQs in the framework within a UK context.*