



Department
for Education

Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualifications - Questions to address in letters of support from Higher Education providers

We require higher education providers to specifically address the following questions as a minimum in their letters of support for your alternative academic qualification, alongside the other requirements in the [funding approval criteria for alternative academic qualifications](#) in the funding approval manual.

Where there are larger and smaller versions of an applied academic qualification, the letter should address the questions for each qualification in turn, reflecting to which size of qualification the information refers. Both sizes of qualification should not be covered at once with the same information.

We recommend including this information in your correspondence with higher education providers, to support them with providing all the necessary information required as supporting evidence for your qualification.

Questions for higher education providers

1. Which specific qualification(s) are you supporting in your letter?
2. What statement best describes how relevant departments in your organisation view this qualification?
 - a) This qualification meets our specific subject entry requirements for related courses.
 - b) This would not be a specific subject entry requirement for any of our related courses, but this would be a qualification we would accept, and we are confident it would be highly beneficial for students progressing onto our related courses.
 - c) This would not be a specific subject entry requirement for any of our related courses, or necessarily be highly beneficial for students progressing onto them. It is, however, a qualification we would accept and we would predict it would give some benefit to students progressing onto our related courses.
3. Please provide any additional notes about how this qualification may be used in your admissions arrangements.
4. To what subjects or particular courses will the applied academic qualification support progression? (there should be specific named subjects or particular courses students can go on to study at a higher level) [200-word limit]

5. How will the qualification more generally support progression to the higher-level learning courses identified? For example, transferable or applied knowledge and skills. [200-word limit]
6. Does your institution currently use similar qualifications as part of its Level 2 provision? If so, which ones will this qualification replace?
7. Do you have any other comments you would like to make in support of this qualification? (200 words max)
8. Do you have the authority to confirm the contents on behalf of your institution?

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