

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT
LIFELONG LEARNING IN
SCOTLAND...**

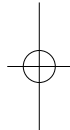
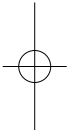
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RECOGNITION
OPPORTUNITY
PROGRESSION
FOR ALL



**THE SCOTTISH CREDIT AND
QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK
PARTNERSHIP**

a guide to the role of the
SCQF in lifelong learning



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scqf | SCOTLAND'S LIFELONG LEARNING FRAMEWORK

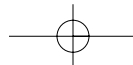
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scottish credit and
qualifications framework



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THE SCOTTISH CREDIT AND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK PARTNERSHIP

BACKGROUND

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (the Framework) promotes lifelong learning in Scotland. Through the Framework you can find out about all mainstream qualifications in Scotland and plan your future learning. The Framework supports everyone in Scotland, including learning providers and employers, by:

- helping people of all ages and circumstances to get access to appropriate education and training so they can meet their full potential;
- helping employers, learners and the general public to understand the full range of Scottish qualifications, how qualifications relate to each other and to other forms of learning, and how different types of qualification can contribute to improving the skills of the workforce.

By using two measures, the level of a qualification and the number of credit points awarded for that qualification, the Framework helps you understand and compare qualifications. (The level of a qualification increases with the complexity of the course. The number of credit points for a qualification is based on the amount of time that an 'average' learner studying at the appropriate level might take to achieve the outcome of that course. One credit point represents 10 hours of learning time.)

THE FRAMEWORK:

- describes the courses and programmes that lead to qualifications;
- helps you develop 'progression routes' for you to follow; and
- allows you to make the most of the opportunities to transfer credit points between qualifications.

The Framework also provides an extremely important way of recognising 'outcome-based learning' (learning that is related to things that you can do) and 'quality-assured learning' (learning that has been assessed and checked by someone else) in a wide range of settings (for example, learning in the workplace or in the community).

PARTNERSHIP

In November 2006, we (the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Partnership) were set up to manage the Framework. Our members are:

- the Association of Scotland's Colleges;
- the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education;
- Scottish Ministers;
- the Scottish Qualifications Authority; and
- Universities Scotland.

We are not run to make a profit and are a registered charity.

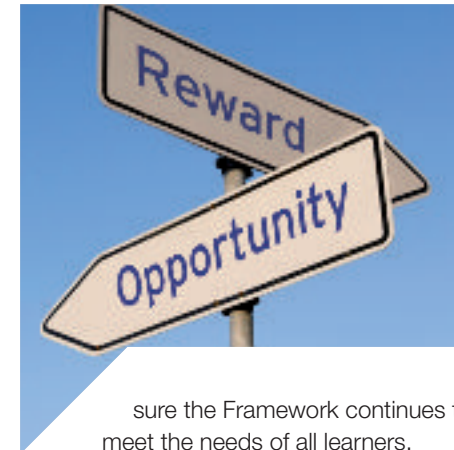
OUR AIMS ARE TO:

- maintain the quality and integrity (effectiveness) of the Framework;
- promote and develop the Framework as a way of supporting lifelong learning; and
- develop and maintain links between the Framework and similar frameworks throughout the UK, Europe and the rest of the world.

Maintaining the quality and integrity of the Framework is vital for it to be successful. We set up the Quality Committee to support the quality of the Framework and to provide clear, accurate technical information to learners, the public and others with an interest in learning, including learning providers and employers.

The Framework provides the language used to describe all learning. Effective communication is at the heart of the Framework and we are supporting a communication programme for the people of Scotland. We also produce publications about learning in Scotland and keep relevant people up to date with developments through our website www.scqf.org.uk and SCQF Updates, which we produce every six months.

To help us support the Framework, we have set up the SCQF Forum. The Forum is made up of senior representatives from the fields of education, business and communities in Scotland. The Forum gives us advice to make



sure the Framework continues to meet the needs of all learners, employers and other users of Scottish qualifications, both within Scotland and in Europe and the rest of the world.

The Framework is at the heart of helping individual learners, learning providers, users of qualifications and policymakers promote a culture of lifelong learning in Scotland. If you need more information, please get in touch with our Chief Executive as follows —

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