

National Qualification Framework

Level	Examples of vocational qualifications
Entry level	Entry level certificate New 14-19 Diploma foundation level (to be phased in from 2008-13) BTEC entry qualification Vocational entry level qualification (eg City and Guilds, OCR, NOCN, VRQ)
Level 1	Vocational GCSE grade D-G New 14-19 Diploma level 1 (to be phased in from 2008-13) BTEC Introductory Certificate or Diploma NVQ level 1 Vocational level 1 qualification (eg City and Guilds, OCR, NOCN, VRQ)
Level 2	Vocational GCSE grade A*-C New 14-19 Diploma level 2 (to be phased in from 2008-13) BTEC First Certificate or Diploma NVQ level 2 Vocational level 2 qualification (eg City and Guilds, OCR, NOCN, VRQ) Apprenticeship
Level 3	Applied A levels (also called GCE A levels in applied subjects) New 14-19 Diploma level 3 (to be phased in from 2008-13) BTEC National Award, Certificate or Diploma NVQ level 3 Vocational level 3 qualification (eg City and Guilds, OCR, NOCN, VRQ) Advanced Apprenticeship
<p>These qualifications can be used to gain entry into some higher education courses.</p>	

Level	Examples of vocational qualifications	Framework for Higher Education
Level 4	Vocational level 4 qualification (eg City and Guilds, OCR, NOCN, VRQ)	Certificate Level Certificate of Higher Education
Level 5	Foundation degree Higher National Certificate or Diploma (HNC or HND) BTEC Professional Award, Certificate or Diploma (level 5)	Intermediate Level Diploma of Higher Education
Level 6	VNVQ Level 4 BTEC Professional Award, Certificate or Diploma (level 6) Specialist and professional awards	Honours Level Honours degree Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma
Level 7	BTEC Advanced Professional Diploma, Certificate or Award (level 7) Graduate Apprenticeships Specialist and professional awards	Masters Level Masters degree Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma
Level 8	NVQ level 5 Specialist and professional awards	Doctoral Level Doctorate

The small print

- This table only includes the most common vocational qualifications. Remember there are lots more academic qualifications and work-specific qualifications available.
- GNVQs and AVCEs are not included in the table as they are no longer being taught.
- Revised NQF levels 4 to 8 are not currently implemented for NVQs at levels 4 and 5.