

Non UK Qualifications – Explaining them to UK employers

Prospective employers want to know what academic qualifications you have obtained. If you have gained qualifications outside the UK, you may have to explain to UK employers what the equivalent qualification level and its grade might be in the UK education system.

Q: Is there an organisation in the UK that can tell me how my home country qualifications compare to UK qualifications?

Yes. The **National Academic Recognition Information Centre for the United Kingdom (UK NARIC)** is the official organisation which can tell you UK equivalents in relation to your qualifications.

[UK NARIC support for individuals](#) ☎ +44 (0)871 330 7033 ✉ feedback@naric.org.uk

You can telephone UK NARIC directly (9am-5pm GMT, Monday-Friday). When you call you must have the following information ready: country, exact title of your qualification, exact name of the awarding body/institution, duration of study for that qualification.

If you need an official document to confirm the comparability of your qualifications, you can purchase a Statement of Comparability. To apply for a Statement of Comparability, the first step is to register with UK NARIC: [How to Apply](#). There is a £59.40 charge for this document. *NB: UK NARIC can only tell you the equivalent **level** of study; it cannot tell you how many UCAS points your equivalent qualification scores.* (See information about UCAS points on the back of this sheet).

Q: I took my first/undergraduate degree in another country. My degree result is not described in the same way as the UK undergraduate degree result or ‘classification’. How do I ‘convert’ my result?

There is a useful **equivalency table** on the UK government National College for Teaching and Leadership website. This only relates to degree level study, but could be useful if you want to get an indication of how your degree and its classification compare to a UK undergraduate degree.

Please note: this table should **only** be used to give you an indication and you should still **seek clarification**

Percent Range	Grade	Grade Point	Pass/Fail	Degree Classification Equivalent	
75-100	A+	4.5	Pass	First Class	1 st
70-74	A	4.0	Pass	First Class	1 st
65-69	B+	3.5	Pass	Upper Second Class	2:1
60-64	B	3.0	Pass	Upper Second Class	2:1
50-59	C+	2.5	Pass	Lower Second Class	2:2
45-49	D+	1.5	Pass	Third Class	3 rd
40-44	D	1.0	Pass	Third Class	3 rd
0-39	Fail at Resit	0	Fail	--	--

if unsure. See: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/overseas-degree-equivalency-table-and-methodology>

UCAS Tariff or UCAS Points

Q: I am completing an employer's application form. It has a question which asks for the number of 'UCAS Points' I have. What does this mean and how do I calculate the number of points I have?

UCAS is The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service. When students in the UK apply for university they are usually offered a place on the basis of their GCE Advanced Level examinations or 'A' levels. Most students aiming for university take 'A' levels in 3 different subjects or more. These 'A' level grades are converted into UCAS Points:

More information can be found on the UCAS website at:

<https://www.ucas.com/advisers/guides-and-resources/information-new-ucas-tariff-advisers>

Example: A student who obtains 3 'A' levels at a grade B (BBB) scores 300 points or 120 under the new system.

The UCAS website has some useful information at: www.ucas.ac.uk/students/ucas_tariff/.

You can also contact UCAS for further information: ☎ +44 (0) 371 468 0 468 Twitter: [ucas_online](#) FB: UCAS

*NB: UCAS **will not** be able to convert your international qualifications directly in to UCAS Points.*

Some of the large graduate employers have useful information on their websites about the minimum international qualifications they expect their successful applicants to have. For example: Deloitte:

<https://www2.deloitte.com/uk/en/pages/careers/articles/international-academic-requirements.html>

HSBC: <http://www.hsbc.com/careers/frequently-asked-questions> (look at the information under 'Students and graduates' and then the questions under 'Global Graduate Programmes & Internships')

There is also a UCAS Points calculator on the UCAS website which you can use once you have worked out what the UK equivalent qualification and grade is for your non-UK qualification:

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/entry-requirements/tariff/calculator>

The World Education Service website at www.wes.org/gradeconversionguide/ is a free service which provides a comparison of your qualification's **grades** with **United States** grades. You next convert to **UK grades** and work out the UCAS points.

Q: I do not know my UCAS points score? How can I complete the application?

You could try the following:

- telephone or email the employer to ask what you should put on the form in answer to the question about UCAS Points
- add a comment about your actual qualifications and results in the 'Additional Information' box on the form.