

Awards from SQA



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SQA Awards are characterised by their flexible nature and are nationally recognised. These Awards are suitable for a wide range of people at different stages.

They provide learners with opportunities to acquire skills, recognise achievement and promote confidence through independent thinking and positive attitudes, while motivating learners to be successful and participate positively in the wider community.

Each Award is SCQF (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework) credit rated and levelled.

Who are our Awards for?

The Awards may suit a wide range of learners, including:

- Learners involved in educational or training programmes
- Learners involved in community or voluntary projects

What is expected at each level?

The level of Award attained depends on the quality of response and the amount of support received by the learner.



The table below shows how an Award is differentiated across SCQF levels 2 – 6:

SCQF level descriptor	2	3	4	5	6
The learner will work with...	frequent and directive support, ie the teacher/lecturer will issue explicit instructions/ provide assistance	directive support, ie the teacher/ lecturer will issue explicit instructions	support, ie the teacher/lecturer will offer advice	minimum support, ie the teacher/lecturer will respond to specific questions from the learner	non-directive supervision, ie learners will take responsibility for their own learning but the teacher/lecturer may explain and interpret if requested
The learner will...	respond and participate, ie agree to ideas, suggestions and plans	participate, ie agree to ideas, suggestions and plans	contribute, ie offer some ideas and/or suggestions	negotiate, ie put forward suggestions and ideas and agree a way forward	take some supervisory responsibility, ie take the lead in some aspects of the work
Tasks and activities will be...	very simple, ie routine and familiar and supported/ supervised	basic, ie routine and familiar	straightforward, ie consisting of routine elements	detailed, ie consisting of some routine and non-routine elements	complex, ie consisting of some non-routine elements

Find out more about SQA's Awards at www.sqa.org.uk/awards

Wider Achievement



SQA Awards are designed to recognise wider achievement and the development of skills which will help learners to succeed in today's world. Wider Achievement Awards recognise the life and work skills that come from a wide range of activities which can include sport, mentoring, voluntary work or fundraising activities – whether they take place at school, college or elsewhere.

We have a number of Wider Achievement Awards and qualifications from SCQF levels 1 to 6 – all suitable for a broad range of learners.

Employability Awards (SCQF Levels 3 and 4)

SQA's Employability Awards are firmly focused on preparing learners to enter the world of work. These Awards enable candidates to develop the solid job-seeking skills and attitudes needed to get and keep a job. Learners are encouraged to reflect on their achievements and identify the appropriate behaviours and attitudes that are attractive to employers.

NPA Enterprise and Employability Awards (SCQF Levels 4 and 5)

The National Progression Awards (NPAs) in Enterprise and Employability equip learners with valuable skills that are both relevant and transferable. That means learning can be confidently taken forward into any employment setting, including self-employment.

Leadership Awards (SCQF Levels 5 and 6)

Building confidence and self-esteem, Leadership Awards develop the skills, styles and qualities essential for successfully leading activities. Endorsed by the Chartered Management Institute, the Awards also stress the importance to the leadership role of respecting differing cultures and beliefs.

Modern Languages for Life and Work Awards (SCQF Levels 3 and 4)

These Awards develop both language and employability skills, and allow learners to follow their own interests in a cultural context. Focused on practical life and work applications, the Awards deliver skills in either one or two modern languages. Beyond language learning, candidates are encouraged to compare life in different countries, enabling a greater understanding of their own and others' cultures.

Find out more about SQA's Wider Achievement Awards at www.sqa.org.uk/widerachievement

Personal Achievement Awards (SCQF Levels 1 and 2)

SQA's Personal Achievement Awards recognise small but significant successes in a variety of areas. These Awards are ideal for learners with special educational needs, and for organisations working with learners who build up achievements in small steps. The themes of Developing Independence and Taking Part in the Community help develop confidence, independence and communication skills.

Personal Development Awards (SCQF Levels 2 - 6)

Personal Development Awards focus on developing personal skills and abilities as well as increasing knowledge of self through experiential learning. The Awards can help build self-confidence and resilience, with learners encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. Through involvement in personal, group and vocational projects, learners can develop valuable interpersonal and task management skills, practical abilities and self-awareness.

Religion, Belief and Values Awards (SCQF Levels 3 - 6)

Complementing National Courses, these Awards can be delivered during statutory/core religious education in secondary schools. Learners investigate religion and beliefs, put their own beliefs and values into action, and reflect on their learning.

Scottish Studies Awards (SCQF Levels 4 and 5)

Scottish Studies Awards enable learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of Scotland — its people, society, culture, natural environment and heritage — and to make connections across the curriculum.

Steps to Work Awards (SCQF Levels 3 and 4)

The Steps to Work Awards help learners from school, further education or training make the leap into employment. Developing self-esteem, self-awareness and self-confidence, the Awards encourage learners to focus on areas that interest them. Then, through practical activities, candidates develop the skills to recognise their strengths and the contribution they'll make to society.

Volunteering Skills Awards (SCQF Levels 3, 4 and 5)

Through participation in volunteering activities, learners develop skills and personal development experience — ideal preparation for further education and employment. Encouraging responsibility, the Awards focus on the context of volunteering and see learners planning a volunteering placement, reviewing and reflecting on their skills and volunteering experience, and completing an investigative project.

Wellbeing Awards (SCQF Levels 3 - 5)

The aim of the Wellbeing Awards is to help learners explore factors that influence well-being and encourage them to undertake activities to improve it. These Awards take a holistic view of well-being and provide learners with an opportunity to look at different ideas of health and well-being at a personal, community, societal or global level.



More awards available from SQA

Customer Service Award: Principles and Practices (SCQF Level 5)

This Award enables learners to specialise in different sectors as they develop the knowledge and skills to deliver professional customer service. The Award covers effective communication and listening skills, creating a good impression with customers, dealing with customers' needs effectively — including customer dissatisfaction — and understanding why customer service is so important to an organisation.



Cycling Awards (SCQF Levels 1 and 2)

These Awards equip learners with the skills needed to check, maintain and ride their bicycles safely. All of the main safety requirements are covered, including safety checks, basic maintenance and repair skills, rules, practices and codes of conduct for safe cycling.

Internet Safety (Unit at SCQF Level 4)

Keeping pace with advances, this Unit has been updated to include a stronger focus on personal safety including cyberbullying, online behaviour, social networking and use of mobile devices. Learners are made aware of the risks and responsibilities of online working, and develop the skills and knowledge essential to safeguard themselves and others. Topics include dealing with unwanted communications, guarding against identity theft, and protecting systems against viruses.



NPA's

National Progression Awards (NPAs) assess a defined set of skills and knowledge in specialist vocational areas. They also link to National Occupational Standards, which are the basis of Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs). Developed and recognised by industry practitioners, and supported by the relevant Sector Skills Council (SSC), you can trust NPAs to deliver. The framework of mandatory and optional Units means centres can tailor their offering to local needs. The Units are flexible too; they're a manageable size for employee training, and also slot perfectly into school timetables.



Personal Finance Award (SCQF Level 4)

This Award equips candidates with the skills to understand and manage money throughout everyday financial encounters. The qualification is jointly awarded by SQA and the *ifs School of Finance* — an awarding body specialising in financial education for a wide range of learners.

Safe Road User Award (SCQF Level 4)

The Safe Road User Award builds positive attitudes to road use and enables young people to share responsibility for road safety. The Award has been developed in collaboration with the Driving Standards Agency (DSA) and stems directly from recent government initiatives focused on changing and improving driving attitudes across the UK.



Contact us now

Want to find out more?

Further information on these qualifications can be found on SQA's website www.sqa.org.uk/awards

How to get in touch

To find out more about SQA Awards, please contact our Business Development team who are on hand to answer your queries and provide more in-depth advice.

Tel: 0303 333 0330

E-mail: mycentre@sqa.org.uk

www.sqa.org.uk/businessdevelopment

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