



# Rules about Applications for Recognition to award GCSE/GCE qualifications



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## **General Principles of the Rules about Applications for Recognition to award GCSE / GCE qualifications**

This document is for any recognised awarding body wishing to apply for recognition to award GCSE/GCE qualifications.

Under Section 10 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015 we must make rules about the making of applications to us for the recognition of an awarding body.

The aim of these rules is to provide clarity to an applicant on the process to apply for recognition to award GCSE / GCE qualifications.

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Criteria for Recognition for GCSE / GCE Qualifications](#).

## Recognition to award GCSE / GCE qualifications

In order to be granted qualification-specific recognition to award GCSE / GCE qualifications in Wales, an awarding body must first be recognised by Qualifications Wales.

Our awarding body recognition process can be found [here](#).

Any awarding body wishing to award GCSE / GCE qualifications must demonstrate that they meet our Criteria for Recognition for GCSE / GCE qualifications or be able to satisfy us that they have sufficient arrangements in place so that they will be able to meet the criteria within an appropriate time period.

Based on the evidence produced, Qualifications Wales will determine whether the awarding body has met the criteria and, subsequently, decide whether to grant recognition to the awarding body to award GCSE / GCE qualifications.

## How to apply for recognition to award GCSE / GCE qualifications

If you would like to enquire about becoming recognised to award GCSE / GCE qualifications, please email [recognitionandapproval@qualificationswales.org](mailto:recognitionandapproval@qualificationswales.org).

Applicants for GCSE / GCE recognition must formally submit a completed application form and upload any supporting evidence they wish to submit alongside this application form.

We will then review all submitted evidence against our Criteria for Recognition for GCSE / GCE Qualifications and aim to ensure that a decision is normally reached within 40 working days.

If we are satisfied that the applicant has met our Criteria, we will formally recognise them to award GCSE / GCE qualifications in Wales.

If we are not satisfied that the applicant has sufficiently met our Criteria, we will write to them and explain why we have not accepted their application.

After considering our feedback, applicants may re-apply.