



هيئة جودة التعليم والتدريب
Education & Training Quality Authority

Frequently Asked Question (Learners, Parents)

National Qualifications Framework (NQF)



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

National Qualifications Framework (NQF)

What is the National Qualifications Framework?

The National Qualifications Framework (NQF) is a system for recognising all forms of learning through national qualifications that are classified according to a set of sequential and coherent levels of learning outcomes. The NQF also aligns foreign qualifications awarded by institutions outside the Kingdom of Bahrain to the levels of the framework.

How many levels are there in the NQF?

The NQF has 10 levels. Each level describes a different level of learning, measuring the complexity of its intended learning outcomes and the learner fulfilment of the core knowledge, skills and competencies.

Why is the NQF important for learners?

The NQF:

- makes it easier for learners to understand and compare qualifications, both local and international.
- ensures that qualifications align with labor market needs
- supports learners' future learning by providing clear pathways to move from one qualification level to the next.

What does it mean for a qualification to be “on the NQF”?

When a qualification is placed/aligned on the NQF, it means that the qualification is recognised as valid and meeting national standards.

What types of qualifications are included in the NQF?

There are two main types of qualifications on the NQF:

- **National Qualifications:** These are qualifications designed and awarded by institutions in the Kingdom of Bahrain.
- **Foreign Qualifications:** These are qualifications awarded by institutions outside of the Kingdom of Bahrain and aligned to the NQF.

How does a qualification get placed on the NQF?

The institution offering the qualification applies and goes through the NQF processes.



How can learners check if a qualification is available on the NQF?

Learners can check if a qualification is available on the NQF by visiting the NQF Register on the BQA website. (www.bqa.gov.bh).

Can learners continue learning and progress through the NQF levels?

Yes! The NQF encourages lifelong learning by providing clear progression routes. For example, when learners complete a qualification at a lower NQF level, they can progress to higher levels, building on their existing knowledge and skills.

What is the NQF Credit System, and how does it affect learners?

The NQF assigns credits to qualifications based on the amount of learning time required to achieve them. Each NQF Credit represents 10 notional learning hours. This helps to measure how much effort is required to complete a qualification and allows learners to compare different qualifications more easily.