
SCQF Factsheet

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Course Name :	Level :	Credit Points :
SQA [SELECT] Customised Award in Design and Verification of Electrical Installations to BS 7671 (208)	7	3
SQA [SELECT] Customised Award in Inspection & Testing of Electrical Installations to BS 7671 (Including Periodic Inspection & Testing) (214)	7	2

Two of our SQA Customised Awards have been Credit Rated and placed on the Scottish Credit Qualifications Framework (SCQF).

The SCQF uses two measures to describe qualifications in the framework;

- The level of difficulty of the learning outcomes of a qualification
- The size of the qualification, in terms of number of learning hours

The aim of the SCQF is to “enable employers, learners and the public to understand the full range of Scottish qualifications, and how they relate to each other”. (www.scqf.org.uk)

SCQF Framework

The SCQF framework is built around two main concepts, Level Descriptors and Characteristics.

Level Descriptors

The SCQF Level Descriptors describe in broad terms what learners should be able to do or demonstrate at a particular level. These Descriptors go from level 1 to level 12.

Level 6 and 7 are equivalent to a SQA Level 3 (Apprenticeship Level) in complexity. Level 7 sits at the higher side of this scale. These qualifications have been designed for Electricians who have already completed their Level 3 Apprenticeship. The qualifications build on the skills that have been developed during the Apprenticeship and also help Electricians maintain up-to-date knowledge of the Wiring Regulations.

The Credit Rating was undertaken by experts at the SQA on behalf of the SCQF. The panel included a subject expert.

The SQA experts undertook the credit rating by comparing the qualifications against the five separate characteristics. The characteristics are groups of skills that individuals may develop/ use in any given task. These are:

- Knowledge & understanding
- Practice: Applied knowledge, skills and understanding.
- Generic cognitive skills
- Communication, numeracy and ICT skills
- Autonomy, accountability and working with others

The level is determined by looking at each individual characteristic and deciding what Descriptor Level (between 1 and 12) suits that Characteristic best.

Learning Hours

The other side of credit rating is connected with learning hours. The minimum “unit” is equivalent to ten learning hours. This is built in to show how long, on average, the qualification should take.

Two credits means that a programme is expected to take on average about 20 hours and three credits about 30 hours. This includes both classroom time and home-study time.

For further information read the SCQF leaflet; *Would you credit it?* (Available on www.scqf.org.uk)

Comparisons to similar UK based Qualifications

As well as providing a Credit Rating that allows the qualifications to be understood on the Scottish framework, the Credit Rating allows us to compare the qualifications to similar qualifications throughout the UK.

Alternative Frameworks do not “level” using the same criteria. However, there is a map that compares the SCQF framework to other frameworks throughout the UK including the QCF framework.

Our qualifications would be comparable to QCF Level 4 qualifications on the Qualification and Credit Framework England/Northern Ireland (QCF).

For further information, read the SCQF document *Qualifications can cross boundaries*; (Available on www.scqf.org.uk)