Ireland

New Zealand is currently working with Ireland on a project to improve the basis on which we understand and recognise each other’s qualifications. The project, agreed in December 2017, is reviewing the previous qualifications recognition arrangement completed in 2010.

NZQA and Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) signed a new Memorandum of Cooperation in December 2017. This will enable both organisations to develop a greater understanding of, and confidence in, each other’s quality assurance and qualifications systems. It will also provide the basis for ongoing cooperation to improve qualifications recognition services for each country’s qualification holders.

The current project forms part of the cooperation under this arrangement. Updates on its progress will be made here.

Why we’re updating our qualifications recognition arrangement

Between 2008 and 2010, NZQA and the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland (NQAI) cooperated on a qualifications recognition project. The project compared qualifications listed on the upper levels of both countries’ national qualifications frameworks.

There have been significant changes in both New Zealand and Ireland since this project was completed:

- NQAI has since been dissolved with QQI now responsible for NQAI’s roles and functions.
- The project used the New Zealand Register of Quality Assured Qualifications (the Register) as the basis for the comparison. The New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF) replaced the Register in 2010.
- Updates have been made to both the NZQF and the Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ).
- New Zealand has compared the NZQF to the European Qualifications Framework (EQF). This provides a translation device between frameworks.

NZQA and QQI’s current project will review the existing comparability and extend the scope of the qualifications recognition arrangement to encompass all framework levels.

More about the qualifications frameworks

For more information, see:

The New Zealand Qualifications Framework
Irish National Framework of Qualifications
Contact us
For more information, or to give us feedback, please email internationalunit@nzqa.govt.nz

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