

# Educational Oversight Fee Schedule 2023-24 (for providers not eligible to register with the Office for Students)

The fee structure provided below applies to all review activity and annual maintenance costs.

Annual maintenance fees will be for the 12-month period, January to December, each year. Invoices will be issued in December.

Providers are required to pay an annual maintenance fee towards the costs of maintaining and developing QAA activities to deal with enquiries, appeals, complaints and concerns.

QAA does not receive any funding to cover the direct costs incurred in reviews for educational oversight. Consequently, the costs of such activity must be borne by providers. QAA is a non-profit-making organisation.

Fees for educational oversight are reviewed on an annual basis and may be subject to increase. Fees are non-refundable.

To comply with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG), QAA has ensured that a student reviewer will be included as part of the review team for each full review method. This does not apply to annual monitoring activity.

#### Review fees for new applicants

The process for all new applicants happens in three main stages. There are separate fees for each stage.

For the **first stage**, there is an application fee of £1,615. The application fee must be received with the application form and supporting documentation, and must be made via BACS or bank transfer.

Our bank account details for payment are:

Account name: The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education

Sort code: 40-22-09 Account no: 92470233

IBAN: GB74HBUK40220992470233

BIC: HBUKGB4104H

Please ensure that your organisation name is included in the payment reference.

Where applicable, the **second stage** is the financial sustainability, management and governance (FSMG) check. QAA carries out the FSMG check for **educational oversight**, for which there is a fee of £4,870. The FSMG check fee must be received

with the FSMG form and supporting information, and must be made via BACS or bank transfer using the same details as those set out above.

For the **third stage** - the review of quality assurance arrangements - the fee for Higher Education Review (Alternative Providers) will be as follows:

Size of review team	3-day visit	Variance per day
3 reviewers	£27,565	£2,835
4 reviewers	£32,970	£3,520
5 reviewers	£38,325	£4,200

The size of the review team will be determined according to the scale of the provision on offer. See the Higher Education Review (Alternative Providers) Handbook for further details.

The review team will determine the duration of the review visit at its first team meeting, which takes place four weeks before the review visit. Where the team size is yet to be determined, applicants will be invoiced for a three-reviewer, three-day review visit as per the table above and then may be charged additional fees, according to the variance column. Therefore, an applicant being reviewed by a team of three reviewers, which receives a four-day review visit, would be charged an additional fee of £2,835 in addition to the £27,565 fee.

The fee for the review of quality assurance arrangements will be invoiced by QAA and must be paid in full 18 weeks before the review visit.

In some cases, the FSMG check and review of quality assurance arrangements may overlap, and the fees for both stages would be paid by applicants at the same time.

#### **Partial Higher Education Review (Alternative Providers)**

The fee for the partial review will vary to reflect the duration of the partial review and how many reviewers are involved. The following table provides an indication of the likely fee.

The full fee must be paid 12 weeks prior to the visit for the partial review to take place. Where providers are required to undergo a partial review in place of a monitoring visit, the fee will be adjusted if the maintenance fee for that year has already been paid.

Size of review team	1-day visit	2-day visit	3-day visit
3 reviewers	£11,025	£14,175	£16,800
4 reviewers	£13,125	£16,800	£19,950

#### **Higher Education Review (Foreign Providers)**

Providers to be reviewed under the **Higher Education Review (Foreign Providers)** method will be charged as follows (for full-course providers).

Size of review team	1.5-day visit	2-day visit	3-day visit
3 reviewers	£18,375	£19,425	£21,525

Advance invoices will be based on a 1.5-day review visit. Should a longer review visit be required, an additional charge will be payable, which will be the difference between the actual duration of the visit and the 1.5 days originally charged.

#### **Recognition Scheme for Educational Oversight (RSEO)**

Providers to be reviewed under the Recognition Scheme for Educational Oversight will be charged a fee of £11,025 for the quality assurance review. This is for short-term study abroad providers only.

#### **Educational Oversight-Exceptional Arrangements (EOEA)**

The exceptional arrangements process is for providers that are not covered by other methods such as Higher Education Review (Alternative/Foreign Providers) but wish to be recognised by UKVI for educational oversight. Exceptional arrangements include colleges operating as autonomous institutions with close links to a higher education institution.

In addition to the fee of £1,615 for new applicants, the cost of the review is £11,025.

### Maintaining educational oversight: four-yearly full review

Student Sponsor guidance requires providers to reapply for a four-yearly full review. There is no charge for the reapplication process. The review will also be preceded by a check on the provider's FSMG, for which the fee for Stage 2 of the application process for new applicants applies.

Review invoices (Stage 3) will be sent out prior to the full review. In some cases, this will be before you receive the annual maintenance invoice.

## Review fees for providers seeking to maintain educational oversight

#### Annual maintenance fee

The annual maintenance fee includes scrutiny of the annual return and any subsequent monitoring visit. Should an extended monitoring visit, partial or full review be required, there will be an additional fee. The additional fee for an extended monitoring visit is £2.650.

Please also note that where providers are scheduled to undergo a full review in 2023-24, and this is not their first QAA review, the annual maintenance fee will be deducted from the review fee.

For providers reviewed through Higher Education Review (Alternative/Foreign Providers), the Recognition Scheme for Educational Oversight, or Educational Oversight-Exceptional Arrangements, the annual maintenance fee for the year 2024 is as follows.

Student numbers	Annual fee £
(higher education, headcount)	
Up to 20	4,200
21-50	4,725
51-100	6,300
101-400	7,350
401-750	8,925
751+	9,450

Student numbers are taken from the most recent review report, either published or in draft (or from the submission where a monitoring visit has not been required). New applicants that have their first review in 2023-24 are not required to undergo annual monitoring, or pay a maintenance fee during this period.

Please refer to the QAA website for additional guidance on annual monitoring.

Updated August 2023

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