



## Educational Oversight and Specific Course Designation Fee Schedule for 2017

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

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

The fee structure provided below applies to annual maintenance from January 2017 and to reviews conducted from August 2017. For reviews undertaken up to July 2017, please see the previous fee structure: [educational oversight fee structure 2016](#), [specific course designation fee structure 2016](#).

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

### Review fees for new applicants

The process for new applicants happens in two or three main stages (depending on whether the review is for educational oversight or specific course designation), as described on the QAA website. There are separate fees for each stage.

For the **first stage** there is an application fee of £1,490. 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:	GB37MIDL402209092470233

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

The **second stage** is the financial sustainability, management and governance (FSMG) check. QAA carries out the FSMG for educational oversight, for which there is a fee of £4,500. 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 specific course designation the FSMG check is conducted by HEFCE.

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 review	Variance per day
Two reviewers	£20,610	£1,870
Three reviewers	£25,480	£2,600
Four reviewers	£30,450	£3,220
Five reviewers	£35,420	£3,840

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. Applicants will be invoiced for a three-day review visit as per the table above and then may be charged additional fees, or be refunded a proportion of the fee, according to the variance column. Therefore an applicant being reviewed by a team of two reviewers which receives a two-day review visit would be refunded £1,870 from the £20,610 fee; and an applicant being reviewed by a team of three reviewers which receives a four-day visit would be charged an additional £2,600, and so on.

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.

## Foreign Providers

Providers to be reviewed under the **Recognition Scheme for Educational Oversight (RSEO)** will be charged a fee of £8,010 for the quality assurance review (short-term study abroad providers only).

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

Size of review team	1.5 day review	2 day review	3 day review
Two reviewers	£13,190	£13,770	£15,440
Three reviewers	£16,760	£17,530	£19,750

Advance invoices will be based on a 1.5 day review. 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.

## Embedded College Providers

Embedded College Providers will be charged a fee based on the number of embedded colleges to be reviewed and the duration of the visits to each college.

Fee per provider:

Two reviewers	Four reviewers	Six reviewers
£11,330	£17,510	£25,310

Fee per embedded college to be visited:

1.5 day visit	2 day visit	3 day visit
£5,980	£7,090	£8,470

QAA will appoint two reviewers for the first four colleges to be visited. Four reviewers will be appointed for 5-7 college visits, and six reviewers will be appointed for visits to 8 or more colleges.

Advance invoices will be based on a 1.5 day review. Should a longer review visit be required, an additional charge will be payable. For example, a provider that requires four embedded colleges to be visited will be charged for two reviewers (£11,330) and 4 x 1.5 day visits (4 x £5,980), making a total of £35,250.

An additional charge will be payable if any of the embedded colleges require a visit longer than 1.5 days, which will be the difference between the actual duration of the visit and the charge invoiced for 1.5 days. For example, if one embedded college requires a 3-day visit, the additional fee will be £2,490 (£8,470-£5,980).

## **Educational Oversight - Exceptional Arrangements**

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

In addition to the fee above for new applicants, the cost for reviews in 2017 is £10,350.

## Review fees for providers seeking to maintain educational oversight and specific course designation

### 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. Providers were invoiced for the annual maintenance fee, as published, in January 2017.

**Please also note that where providers are scheduled to undergo a full review in 2017, and this is not their first QAA review, the annual maintenance fee will still be invoiced, but this charge will be deducted from the review fee.**

For providers reviewed through Higher Education Review (for alternative providers or foreign providers), the Recognition Scheme for Educational Oversight (RSEO), or Educational Oversight - Exceptional Arrangements, the annual maintenance fee for 2017 is as follows:

Student numbers (higher education, headcount)	£
Up to 20	3,720
21-50	4,160
51-100	5,480
101-400	6,570
401-750	7,660
751+	8,210

For providers that are reviewed through **Embedded College Review for Educational Oversight (ECREO)** or **Higher Education Review (Embedded Colleges)** the annual maintenance fee is £8,210 plus £2,860 per embedded college.

New applicants in 2016 that have their first review in 2017 are not required to undergo annual monitoring, or pay a maintenance fee until 2018.

Please refer to [www.qaa.ac.uk/Educational-Oversight](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Educational-Oversight) for additional guidance on the annual monitoring visit.

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