Specialist Global Services from the UK’s Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education

www.qaa.ac.uk/international
About QAA

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) is an independent body entrusted with monitoring and advising on standards and quality in UK higher education.

With over 25 years of experience, QAA plays an active role in international developments in quality assurance, working with government bodies, quality agencies and universities worldwide. We have long established links and over 20 Memoranda of Understanding and Cooperation with quality agencies around the world.

We proactively engage with international networks to support our international work including the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE), and we have observer status with the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN).

QAA is listed on the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR) as a registered quality assurance agency that demonstrated substantial compliance with the European Standards and Guidelines (ESG).

QAA takes a leading role in international developments in standards and quality, working not just to maintain but to enhance and reinforce both the quality and integrity of the UK higher education sector and its reputation in the international sphere.

Through QAA Global we also offer specially designed products and services aimed at supporting the development of quality assurance systems and quality assurance professionals worldwide.
International accreditation

International Quality Review (IQR) is a great place to start if you want to attract more students, strengthen your global positioning or form long-lasting partnerships with UK institutions.

IQR offers higher education institutions outside the UK the opportunity to have QAA’s evidence-based peer review, which has been developed using our extensive experience of carrying out reviews in the UK and overseas.

“IQR was a phenomenal learning experience for the improvement of our university’s processes. QAA supported and guided us at every stage. We felt delighted to work with QAA to achieve the prestigious accreditation of IQR.”

Prof (Dr) Balvinder Shukla, Vice Chancellor, Amity University Uttar Pradesh, India
A successful review enables institutions to demonstrate their own approaches to quality assurance are not only effective, but also comparable with international best practice.

IQR is designed to analyse and reflect on an institution’s quality assurance approaches, to challenge and benchmark these against the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG) and support them to drive improvement and excellence in their own quality assurance approach.

Our Institute had the honour to be the first in the world to have an International Quality Review. Having a QAA International Quality Review Graphic enhances our Institute’s reputation, competitiveness and global image.

Dr Vong Chuk Kwan, President, Institute for Tourism Studies, Macao
International Programme Accreditation (IPA) enables non-UK higher education institutions to demonstrate that their approach to programme design, development and monitoring are effective and comparable to international best practice, supporting curriculum development and student achievement.

Through an independent peer review by QAA, IPA assesses the standards and quality of individual programmes of study against the European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG).

The review includes the systematic monitoring and evaluation of learning and teaching, and the processes that support them. This is combined with specific review of individual programmes of study. This makes sure that the standards of academic awards meet the required level and the quality of the student learning experience is being safeguarded and continually improved.

International Programme Accreditation is a great way to show that your courses and curricula are recognised internationally and stand together with the best globally.

Professor David Coates MBE, University of Dundee, UK
QAA International Membership

International Membership provides vision, expertise and guidance on the topics that matter to your staff and students. It ensures that your university or college is well equipped to face the opportunities and challenges of a rapidly changing global higher education environment. It builds on our existing Membership service for UK higher education institutions.

There are two tiers of International Membership:

**Full International Membership**
- available to all institutions that have QAA’s International Quality Review (IQR) accreditation.

**International Associate Membership**
- available to institutions that do not yet have QAA’s IQR accreditation but are recognised by their local quality agency.

International Membership provides access to a range of exclusive quality enhancement resources, designed to support institutions in improving their own provision. These are available to all staff and students at member institutions, through QAA’s Membership Resources site. International Members also have access to exclusive events, workshops, briefings and training that outline developments and best practice in all aspects of international quality assurance.

“Through participation in QAA International Membership, ECAE will be better placed to strengthen its network of higher education quality assurance professionals in the UK and around the world. We will have access to the latest international thinking and so will remain up-to-date with international best practices - this will inform and shape ongoing refinement of our own quality assurance systems and processes.”

Emirates College for Advanced Education (ECEA)
The International Quality Assurance Programme (IQAP) is a five-day training course for international delegates by the UK’s Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA). It provides excellent opportunities to learn about current issues in higher education quality assurance and build relationships with quality assurance professionals from around the world.

IQAP enables attendees to:

- learn from experts in UK and international quality assurance
- learn from other colleagues from around the world working in similar roles
- reflect on different roles and practices
- develop skills and identify areas for further development.

IQAP also includes visits to UK universities and institutions to see examples of higher education quality in action.

By the end of IQAP attendees will:

- have learned new skills that can be used when planning the improvement of quality assurance within their organisations
- be able to comment more effectively on issues facing quality assurance in education globally
- have gained knowledge and experiences from colleagues working in other countries.
Learn about a range of topics including:

- Building a quality culture
- Self-evaluation
- The student voice
- Peer review
- International approaches to quality assurance

IQAP has been very empowering as it leads to a 360-degree understanding of the quality assurance cycle and the importance of the quality culture at all levels of a higher education institution.

Dr Anida Hasic,
Quality Assurance and Academic Manager,
Istituto Marangoni Paris
Capacity building and enhancement of quality assurance systems

We offer consultancy services to government bodies and quality assurance agencies across the world to build capacity and enhance their approach to assuring quality of higher education in their countries. Alongside national-level capacity building, our services extend to individual institutions that wish to develop their internal approaches to quality.

Method development and training for quality review

Based on our experience of designing evidence-based academic peer reviews and training over 1,000 reviewers, we offer our expertise to government bodies and quality assurance agencies across the world to support the development of their methodology for accreditation, as well as training reviewers, student reviewers and staff.

“Learning by doing hands-on training and group participation was very useful.”

Higher Education Commission, Pakistan
QAA international expertise

We are active internationally to maintain, develop and share our expertise and insight including:

- participating in reviews conducted with other agencies
- promoting UK practice through speaking engagements, presentations and events
- leading, contributing to and learning from cross-border projects
- working in partnership with international agencies interested in learning more about the UK’s approach to quality assurance
- supporting the development of quality assurance practices and regulatory frameworks internationally
- collaborating with other international agencies to conduct reviews
- through the QAA Quality Evaluation and Enhancement of UK Transnational Higher Education Provision (QE-TNE) Scheme.