QAA International Membership is an opportunity to become part of a new international community of quality professionals and higher education institutions - including QAA’s UK Members - that are passionate about the quality of the student experience they deliver.

QAA International Membership provides vision, expertise and guidance on the topics that matter to your staff and students, ensuring your institution is well equipped to face the opportunities and challenges of a rapidly changing global higher education environment. We work in partnership with, and for, all our members to deliver high quality services that:

- safeguard academic standards and champion academic integrity
- enhance the quality of the student learning experience, wherever students are studying
- support continuous improvement of approaches to quality assurance

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There are two tiers of QAA International Membership:

**Full International Membership**
Offers access to a range of services and expertise including resources, guidance, networking opportunities and briefings. It is available only to those institutions who have achieved International Quality Review (IQR) accreditation from QAA.

**International Associate Membership**
Delivers a range of resources, guidance and networking opportunities for higher education institutions who do not yet have QAA’s IQR accreditation but are recognised by their local quality agency.
benefits of international associate membership

as a qaa international associate member you will benefit from:

- informative, timely and responsive quality enhancement resources designed to support you in improving your provision
- opportunities for staff development
- a programme of activities that offers opportunities to learn from international colleagues through sharing of the best of international practice.

who can join qaa international associate membership?

international associate membership is for higher education institutions recognised by their local quality agency/regulator and is suitable for those who have not yet achieved international quality review (iqr) accreditation from qaa.

institutions that subsequently receive iqr accreditation status have the option to apply for full international membership within the current year. please contact us for more information about the benefits of full international membership.

details of how to become a member can be found on page 8.
What does International Associate Membership include?

As an International Associate Member you will have access to a wide range of resources which cover a broad area of activity centred on the themes chosen for the Membership year.

**Resources**

All staff and students can access practical written resources, recordings and presentations on our exclusive Membership Resources Site. These include:

- **Individual papers and briefings** on topics most pertinent to International Members, for example, the use of micro-credentials; assessment and learning outcomes; and enterprise and entrepreneurship.

- **Case studies and opinion pieces** that build on these resources and briefings, including QAA’s publicly available Quality Compass series, designed to help members navigate and respond to future challenges and opportunities.

- An **International Membership Newsletter** from the International Membership team that will keep you up to date with the latest activities, resources and opportunities for members every month.

- An **International Policy Briefing** providing the latest news on global quality assurance and enhancement activity, topics and themes every two months.

**QAA Membership Resources Site**

As an International Associate Member, all **your staff and students** will benefit from the information, support and enhancement challenges that membership offers including access to the QAA Membership Resources Site.

Colleagues who may find our membership resources useful include:

- senior leadership teams
- academic staff and academic developers
- international teams
- quality teams and other professional services staff
- students and their representatives
- staff responsible for student engagement.

The QAA Membership Resources Site gives access to a wealth of resources including briefings, research outcomes and materials relating to our events. Resources are relevant to students and staff with a wide range of roles.

Each month, the newsletter highlights the latest resources that will be of interest to you as an International Associate Member. To register for the site, all you need is an email address from a QAA Member institution.
Collaborative Enhancement Projects

QAA Collaborative Enhancement Projects offer funding for small groups of institutions to work together on projects to enhance the quality of the participating institutions’ student learning experience. Funded projects also lead to the development of outputs that benefit the wider QAA membership and higher education sector.

This year, we will launch International Collaborative Enhancement Projects. International Members (Full and Associate) can submit an application as a Project Lead or work with a UK university as a Project Partner. Applications for project funding are expected to open in October 2022.

Examples of projects in 2021-22 include accessibility and equity in proofreading, the improvement of student learning by linking inclusion/accessibility and academic integrity, and developing social entrepreneurial skills in students.

Events and networking

Members also have access to a number of events and networking opportunities that will enable you to hear latest developments and best practice in all aspects of international quality assurance, bringing to life resources in our membership area. These include:

- QAA’s high-profile Annual Conference which includes a range of informative and thought-provoking sessions and the opportunity to hear from high-quality speakers about different perspectives and institutional approaches to the hot topics in higher education quality and standards. There are two free online delegate places for each International Associate Member, with discounted rates for additional places.

- The International Member Network provides a termly forum for International Members to come together to learn about and talk through latest developments in international quality assurance and enhancement, at the same time helping members to build up their own network of contacts. The sessions provide an opportunity for staff across our member institutions to come together to discuss a theme that members are finding topical or challenging.

Staff development

International Quality Assurance Training is open to staff from member institutions. Six topics per year will be offered to members and will be decided on the basis of feedback from our International Members. Sessions planned for 2022-23 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management</th>
<th>Maintaining a Quality Culture</th>
<th>Using Data for Enhancement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Managing Risk in Partnerships</td>
<td>Student Engagement for Quality and Enhancement</td>
<td>Student-centred Learning and Teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining a Quality Culture</td>
<td>Using Data for Enhancement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maximising the Benefits from Student Feedback</td>
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The sessions are offered at beginner level for individuals relatively new to the topic covered and at intermediate level for those more experienced professionals.

There are two free places for each International Associate Member.

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Examples of projects in 2021-22 include accessibility and equity in proofreading, the improvement of student learning by linking inclusion/accessibility and academic integrity, and developing social entrepreneurial skills in students.
Informed by our horizon-scanning and co-created through engagement with members, the themes and topics for 2022-23 build on learning from previous years to help you prepare for the future.

Each theme includes a range of practical resources and development activity delivered throughout the year that will ensure you have the right information and tools at your fingertips. There are also opportunities to develop and exchange ideas on the latest policy and practice and network with other International Members.

### Membership Themes 2022-23

**Future Approaches for Learning and Teaching**
- What does good look like? (building on our Hallmarks of Success playbooks)
- Impacts on diverse student groups (Made Digital project development)
- Sense of belonging in hybrid delivery and the campus experience
- Collaborative Enhancement Projects

**Reassessing Assessment**
- Hybrid and digital formats
- Skills and competencies
- Postgraduate taught and research
- Student designed assessment
- Collaborative Enhancement Projects

**Flexible Pathways and Micro-credentials**
- Creating flexible learning pathways
- Portability, stackability and coherence
- Engagement with the Micro-credentials Characteristics Statement
Quality and Standards
- Effective external examining
- Leading sector discussion on degree classification approaches
- Future role of the Quality Code
- Managing risk in UK partnerships
- Subject Benchmark Statements review
- Re-engagement with the Master’s Degree Characteristics Statement

Academic Integrity
- Considering impact of new legislation, for example on academic regulations
- Approaches to penalties and impact on students
- Academic integrity within postgraduate research degrees and practice-based disciplines
- Academic integrity taxonomy
- Collaborative Enhancement Projects

Evaluation and Use of Data
- Innovative and evolving quality processes
- Using data to inform decision-making
- Upskilling in collecting, analysing and reporting evidence for enhancement
- Data collection and analysis for academic integrity cases

Employability, Enterprise and Entrepreneurship
- Supporting the inclusion of these skills in and out of the curriculum
- Good practice in enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Collaborative Enhancement Projects
- Supporting members with institution and subject-level engagement in ESD
- Incorporating ESD with quality and evaluative processes
- Collaborative Enhancement Projects

- Managing risk and enhancing quality in TNE
- Support for the international student experience
- Sustainability and internationalisation
- Engaging with governments and international agencies to ensure we have a strong voice in Europe and around the globe

Important cross-cutting topics will thread throughout the programme:

- Equality, diversity and inclusivity
- Professional development and training
- Student engagement and support
- Postgraduate provision
- Student transitions
- PSRB engagement
- Mental health and well-being
To become a QAA International Associate Member you will need to pay an annual fee. Membership fees reflect the number of students at your institution. The Membership year runs from 1 August to 31 July.

For more information about membership fees, please contact: internationalmembership@qaa.ac.uk

How to become a QAA International Associate Member

To become an International Associate Member your institution will need to demonstrate that you are recognised by your local quality agency/regulator - for example, through a letter of approval or a quality assurance report.

It is easy to become a QAA International Associate Member. If you are thinking about joining us, please contact our QAA Global Team who will be happy to hear from you and discuss how we can help.

Email: internationalmembership@qaa.ac.uk

Details of the terms and conditions of QAA International Associate Membership can be found on the QAA website, at:

www.qaa.ac.uk/international-membership

Keen to progress to the next tier of QAA International Membership and access even more resources and events? It could be time to build International Quality Review (IQR) into your plans. An IQR unlocks access to QAA full international membership. To find out more about IQR and the benefits it offers to your organisation and its approach to the quality of higher education, visit: www.qaa.ac.uk/iqr