QAA International Associate Membership

2021-22
QAA International Membership provides expertise, guidance and insight 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

QAA International Membership is an opportunity to become part of a growing 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.

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 an 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 UK and international colleagues through the sharing of best 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 Membership fees and how to become a member can be found on page 9.
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.

Events and networking

Members also have access to a number of events and networking opportunities that will enable them 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 is one free delegate place for each International Associate Member, with discounted rates for additional places.
- The **International Member Network** which provides a forum for International Members to come together to hear 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 practitioners.
Staff development

**International Quality Assurance Training** is open to staff from member institutions. It introduces the key components of international quality assurance and explores how these can be best used in your institution.

The sessions will be aimed largely at individuals who are relatively new to quality assurance, covering areas including quality assurance processes; governance; internal and external frameworks; and building a quality assurance culture. There are two free places for each International Associate Member.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Colleagues who may find our membership resources useful include:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• senior leadership teams</td>
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<tr>
<td>• academic staff and academic developers</td>
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<tr>
<td>• international teams</td>
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<tr>
<td>• quality teams and other professional services staff</td>
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<td>• students and their representatives</td>
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<td>• staff responsible for student engagement.</td>
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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.

To register for the site, all you need is an email address from a QAA International Associate Member institution.
In 2021-22, the QAA Membership offer spans five interconnected themes. As an International Associate Member you benefit from resources and activities delivered as part of the UK Membership programme’s themes.

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 many opportunities to develop and exchange ideas on the latest policy and practice and network with other International Members.

The five themes for this membership year are:

**Global Engagement and International Partnerships**

QAA’s global reach enables us to share with our members the latest practice, insight and direction of travel in all aspects of quality assurance and enhancement. Building on QAA’s strong partnerships with governments, agencies and policy networks, our resources and events for this theme provide the most up-to-date space to reflect on your own practice and gain insight into the perspective of your international partners.

**Beyond COVID-19 - The Future of Digital and Blended Delivery**

With many higher education institutions moving to online delivery of elements of teaching, learning and assessment, this theme explores best practice and resources for digital and blended pedagogy. It explores the approaches of national agencies to regulating new methods of delivery and how institutions can best adapt to both students’ expectations and regulatory requirements.
Securing Academic Standards and Quality

Creating Inclusive Learning Communities (Flexible Pathways and Pedagogies)

Evaluation and Data-Based Decision-Making

It remains as critical as ever for institutions to consider national and international frameworks and internal policies and processes to ensure academic quality is delivered to the very best internationally benchmarked standards. This theme supports institutions in ensuring academic integrity and the effective use of qualification frameworks and degree algorithms, drawing on QAA’s global expertise and reach.

Creating an inclusive, relevant and positive learning environment is vital in ensuring students make the most of their experience. This theme explores how best to create an optimal student experience, including approaches to flexible pathways, employability and work-based learning, mental health and wellbeing, and sustainable development.

This theme provides institutions with the opportunity to consider the best approaches to enhance teaching and learning provision and evidence the impact of your own policy and practice. Resources and events consider how to optimise the use of data in decision-making processes and look at effective approaches to monitoring and review that move beyond the metrics.
As an International Associate Member there is a full programme of activities and resources to get involved with. The programme for this year continues to evolve and we will keep you informed about the latest additions through regular International Membership briefings.

International Associate Members joining during this year will receive access to 2022-23 International Associate Membership resources and activities. Information on QAA’s 2022-23 programme of activities will be available from May 2022.

Resources and activities scheduled for the remainder of 2021-22 academic year are as follows:

### April 2022
- **Publication**: Course Design, Approval and Management
- **Video/Podcast**: Assessment in Digital and Blended Pedagogy
- **Webinar**: International Membership Update Newsletter
- **Event**: Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Podcast
- **Training**: Course Design, Approval and Management
- **Workshop**: Assessment in Digital and Blended Pedagogy
- **International Policy Briefing**

### May 2022
- **Publication**: Flexible Pathways and Modular Qualifications Briefing
- **Video/Podcast**: Micro-credentials Characteristic Statement
- **Webinar**: Embedding Education for Sustainable Development
- **Event**: International Membership Update Newsletter
- **Training**: Inclusion and Accessibility in the Curriculum and Student Experience Podcast
- **Workshop**: QAA Annual Conference
June 2022

- Quality Compass
- International Membership Update Newsletter
- International Policy Briefing

July 2022

- Supporting and Empowering Teaching Staff
- International Membership Update Newsletter
- Academic Integrity: Enhanced Digital Assessment Security Video

- Evolving Student Engagement Conference
- International Member Network
- International Quality Assurance Training

- Flexible Pathways and Modular Qualifications Briefing
- Supporting and Empowering Teaching Staff
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

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 for QAA International Associate Membership can be found on the QAA website: 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