

Scottish Vocational Qualifications

SVQs are based on national standards developed by individuals working in industry, commerce and education.

SVQs cover a wide range of occupations, allowing candidates to demonstrate their competency to carry out occupational roles.

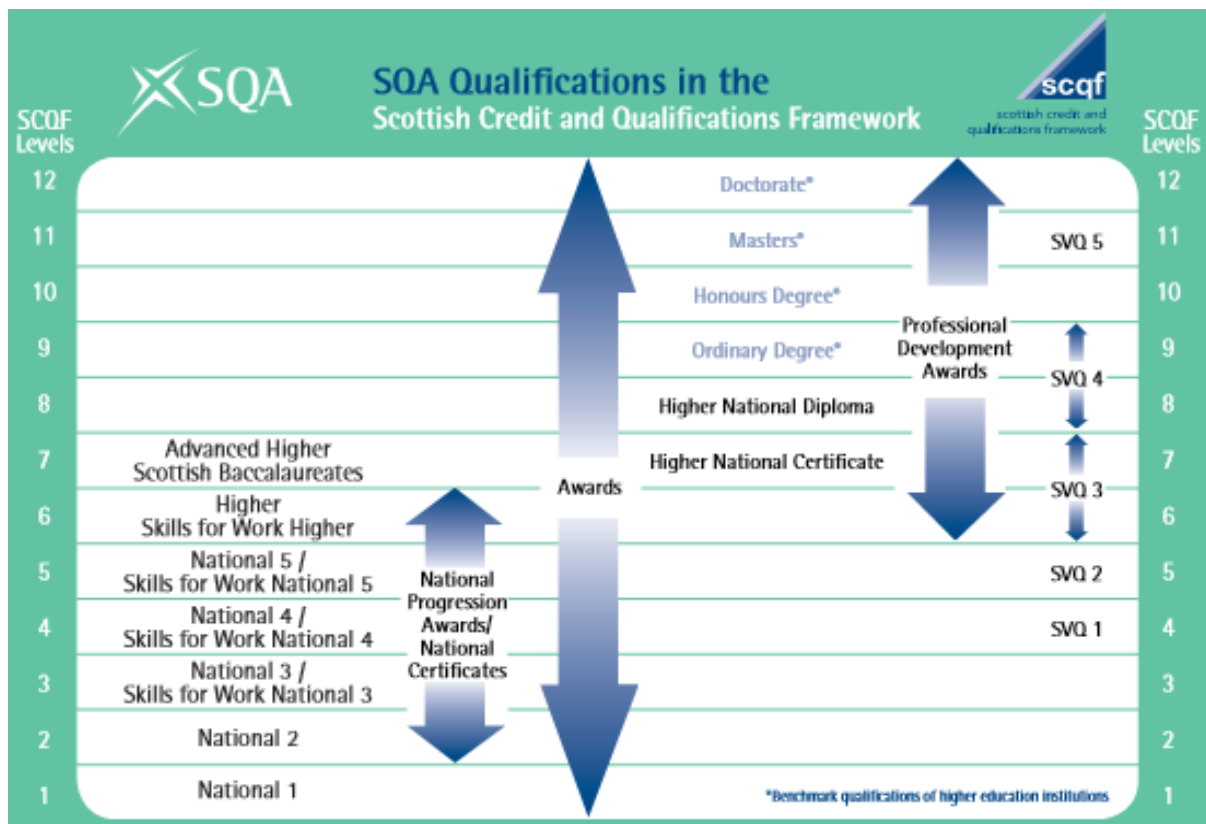
SVQs demonstrate four key aspects:

- How well a candidate can do their job.
- Candidate motivation, confidence and ambition.
- Levels of responsibility undertaken.
- How committed a candidate is to their occupation.

SVQs differ from other qualifications, as they allow candidates to be assessed at their place of work without formal written examinations, while continuing with their normal duties.

These are attractive to employers who continually look to invest in training and skills for their workforce, which in turn helps promote and improve their business.

In the following chart, you can see how SQAs link up with the SCQF Levels, recognised across Scotland.




The levels increase in complexity from one to five. Technical Academy Scotland specialise in delivering levels three to five. Edutrain international specialise in levels one to three – www.edutrain.co.uk

SVQ Level Breakdown

SVQ Qualification	Occupational Breakdown
1	SVQ level 1 covers occupations which involve a range of tasks which fall into a set pattern and do not change.
2	SVQ level 2 covers occupations which involve being competent in a range of activities in varying scenarios. They will be involved in the collaboration of work through group/team work.
3	SVQ level 3 covers occupations applying a broad range of activities in varying scenarios. These are often complex and non-routine tasks. In addition, the occupational holder may have some control, responsibility and provide guidance to others.
4	SVQ level 4 covers occupations applying a broad range of complex, technical or professional activities. The occupational holder will allocate resources and provide work for others. They will hold a position of substantial responsibility.
5	SVQ level 5 covers occupations applying fundamental principles and techniques to a high level of competence in unpredictable scenarios. The occupational holder will hold significant responsibilities, including: allocation of work and resource. They are accountable for: analysis, diagnosis, design, planning, execution and evaluation.

This ready reckoner will help you see which Scottish framework level the different SVQs are equivalent to.



Ready Reckoner for SQA Qualifications in the SCQF

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The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) helps people to understand and compare different qualifications in Scotland.


It does this by using two measures:

Levels (1-12) show how complex the learning of a qualification is.

Credit points indicate the volume of learning required to achieve a qualification.

One SCQF credit point represents 10 notional learning hours.

SQA qualifications are developed using SCQF level and credit points. This information is shown on the Scottish Qualifications Certificate. The Ready Reckoner shows the level and credit points for SQA Units, Courses and Group Awards.



scqf
scottish credit and qualifications framework

www.scqf.org.uk

Units		National qualifications		Group Awards	
Type	SCQF credit points		SCQF level	SCQF credit points	
Higher National Units SCQF levels 5-12	8	Advanced Higher	7	32	Higher National Diploma
National Units SCQF level 7	8	Higher	6	24	Higher National Certificate
National Units SCQF levels 1-6	6	National 5	5	24	National Certificate
SVQ Units SCQF levels 4-12	varies	National 4	4	24	National Certificate
		National 3	3	18	Awards ¹
		National 2	2	18	Professional Development Awards ²
		National 1	1	6	National Progression Awards ¹
		Scottish Baccalaureates			
		SCQF level	SCQF credit points		
		7	104		
		Scottish Vocational Qualifications²			
				SCQF level	
				SVQ 5	11
				SVQ 4	8-9
				SVQ 3	6-7
				SVQ 2	5
				SVQ 1	4

¹ These are flexible Group Awards. SCQF credit points will vary according to the number of credits that they are made up of.

² Please refer to SQA's website for information on SVQs. The allocation of SCQF credit points and levels to SVQs will be undertaken as and when they are revised.

More information on the SCQF, and SQA's interactive ready reckoner, can be found at www.sqa.org.uk/scqf