

## England, Northern Ireland and Wales

### Educational Timeline

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- School Year: August-June with exam dates in June (alternative external exam dates offered in November or December)
- Primary school is six years followed by five years of secondary school. Students typically sit for national and external examinations at the end of five years of secondary school (referred to as Form V)
- After timely completion of initial five years of secondary school, students can extend high school graduation by a maximum of two years by enrolling at the first possible opportunity in the programs listed below and completing in the manner indicated below

### Group A: Documents That Meet High School Graduation Requirement

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Students presenting documents other than those listed below will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Students presenting academic timelines other than the allowable time frames outlined below will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

#### 1st Graduation Point:

Comparable to US high school graduation only if five or more exam subject passes achieved in any of the following options:

GCSE – General Certificate of Secondary Education

BTEC Level 2 First Diploma-- Business and Technology Education Council's Level 2 Diploma

VCSE – Vocational Certificate of Secondary Education (vocational path after five years of secondary school)

GCE O-Level - General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

Intermediate GNVQ – General National Vocational Qualification

#### Higher Education Diploma

- Enrollment in this program is allowed only after unsuccessful completion of higher education access (through A-Levels or BTECs) and requires age 19 for entrance. This is considered equivalent to US high school. In the case of receiving this credential the student's graduation date will be considered for purposes of the competitive experience rule at the first graduation point. Should the student not have a first graduation point, age 19 will be used for application of the competitive experience rule.

#### Allowable Continuing Secondary Extension:

AVCE – Advanced Certificate of Vocational Education (formerly known as Advanced GNVQ)

- Student must enroll in the program at the first available opportunity and earn the credential within two years.

GCE AS-Level - General Certificate of Education Advanced Subsidiary Level

- Must be accompanied by all other credential(s) previously earned. Student must enroll in the program at the first available opportunity and either: earn one AS-Level in one year or two AS-Levels in two years if student also earns an A-Level.

GCE A-Level - General Certificate of Education Advanced Level

- Must be accompanied by all other credential(s) previously earned. Student must enroll in the program at the first available opportunity and either: earn one A-Level in one year, two A-Levels in two years, or one A-Level and two AS-Levels in two years.

BTEC National Diploma (Level 3) - Business & Technology Education Council's National Diploma Program

- Must be accompanied by all other credential(s) previously earned. Student must enroll in the program at the first available opportunity and earn the credential within one year (level 4 or higher is considered post-secondary).

BTEC National Extended Diploma (Level 3) – Business & Technology Education Council's National Extended Diploma Program

- Must be accompanied by all other credential(s) previously earned. Student must enroll in the program at the first available opportunity and earn the credential within two years (level 4 or higher is considered post-secondary).

#### National Vocational Qualification Advanced Level (Level 3)

- Must be accompanied by all other credential(s) previously earned. Student must enroll in the program at the first available opportunity and earn the credential within two years.

#### Cambridge Pre-University Diploma

- Must be accompanied by all other credential(s) previously earned. Student must enroll in the program at the first available opportunity and earn the credential within two years.

## Group B: Documents That Do Not Meet High School Graduation Requirement

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Comparable to less than completion of US high school

School-issued leaving certificates  
Completion of Form V (without external examinations)  
Foundation GNVQ – General National Vocational Qualification  
BTEC – Business and Technology Education Council’s National Award  
BTEC – Business and Technology Education Council’s Foundation Diploma in Art and Design  
BTEC – Business and Technology Education Council’s First Certificate  
BTEC – Business and Technology Education Council’s Introductory Diploma  
BTEC – Business and Technology Education Council’s Introductory Certificate  
Welsh Baccalaureate Foundation and/or Intermediate Diploma  
Pitman Examinations Certificate  
Edexcel (BTEC) Foundation (Level 1) Certificate  
Edexcel (BTEC) Higher (Level 2) Certificate  
Edexcel (BTEC) Advanced (Level 3) Certificate  
VCE – Vocational Certificate of Education  
NVQ Foundation Level – National Vocational Qualification  
FCSE – Foundation Certificate of Secondary Education

## GPA Calculation

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Calculate the cumulative high school GPA using all exam grades earned on official exam certificates listed in “Group A” above. In the case that students present multiple documents/certificates from “Group A” use all exam grades from each type of credential in the GPA calculation (e.g. students might take GCSE, GCE AS, GCE A-Levels, and BTEC diplomas, all of which are included in the GPA calculation). Exam results listed on documents other than official exam certificates issued from the examination bodies (or school stamped copies of the official exam certificates) are not used to calculate the GPA. Convert each exam grade listed on the certificates to a US equivalent using the corresponding scale(s) below and convert to quality points. All exam grades are used and weighted with one credit per grade with the exception of short courses where grades are weighted with .5 US credits for each grade earned. Double awards (where two grades are given for one course) are given two credits, one for each grade earned.

BTEC grades are each awarded a credit and are assigned a US equivalent for each grade listed on the BTEC diploma itself, not from the Notification of Performance (e.g. a BTEC National Diploma awarded a triple grade of Distinction, Distinction, Merit is awarded three US credits, US grades of an A, A and B, then each grade is converted to US equivalents and assigned quality points).

School stamped copies of actual official exam certificates are used for GPA calculations. Provisional results slips are not used in GPA calculations. Each examination body issues replacement certificates in the case of lost or stolen exam certificates. Only for students seeking an eligibility determination in the same year of completion of the credential can official examination body's Statement of Results, Confirmation of Results, or Statement of Provisional Results be used for GPA calculations.

Students completing AS-Levels, A-Levels, or BTECs in August who are seeking eligibility determinations for the Fall term (or for students completing these credentials in November/December seeking determination for the Spring or Winter terms), may receive an eligibility determination prior to issuance of examination body's official Statement of Results or Certificates provided they:

- Met two of three initial freshmen eligibility requirements at the initial graduation point; or
- Student's GPA will not fall below the equivalent of US 2.0 no matter the outcome of the ending exams (if GPA is one of the two criteria being used for initial freshmen eligibility)
- Student progressed with the normal academic timeline for continued secondary education outlined in "Group A" AND
- The NAIA Eligibility Center has received a letter from the student's school confirming the student's enrollment status with end date of the program and the total number and level of exams for which the student is registered to sit.

Students may not receive an eligibility determination prior to the release of official Statement of Results or Certificates provided:

- The student only met one initial freshmen eligibility requirement at the initial graduation point; and/or
- Exam results will determine whether the student has met at least two of the three initial freshmen eligibility requirements.

### Grading Scale (May not be all inclusive):

#### GCSE, VCSE and IGCSE:

Grade	US Grade	Quality Points	
A*	A+	4	
A	A	4	
B	B	3	
C	B	3	
D	C	2	
E	C	2	
F	D	1	
G	D	1	lowest passing grade
H or Ungraded	F	0	

#### GCE O-Level:

Grade	US Grade	Quality Points	
A	A	4	
B	B	3	
C	C	2	
D	D	1	
E	D	1	lowest passing grade
F, G, H	F	0	

#### AVCE:

Grade	US Grade	Quality Points
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A*	A+	4	
A	A	4	
B	B	3	
C	B	3	
D	C	2	
E	C	2	lowest passing grade
U	F	0	

GCE A-Level: Includes AS and A-Level Examinations:

Grade	US Grade	Quality Points	
A*	A+	4	
A	A	4	
B	B	3	
C	B	3	
D	C	2	
E	C	2	lowest passing grade
O	F	0	

BTEC, Cambridge Pre-U Diploma and Intermediate GNVQ:

Grade	US Grade	Quality Points	
Distinction	A	4	
Merit	B	3	
Pass	C	2	lowest passing grade

## Class Ranking

Class rank is evaluated based on a letter written and submitted by the headmaster or principal of the institution from which the student graduated. The letter must confirm both the student's final position in the student's secondary school class and the total number of students in the graduating class (e.g. the student is 41st in a total graduating class of 112 students). Students can meet this requirement upon timely completion of five GCSE, VCSE or Intermediate GNVQs. If the student does not meet the class ranking at this time or the school is unable to supply this information, the student can meet the class rank requirement upon their second graduation point (allowable high school extensions are listed above in "Group A"). However, students completing tracked or separate degree programs (e.g. BTEC Level 3) must be ranked against all other students in a given class who completed the same degree program. Class ranking cannot be used to meet initial freshmen requirements for private exam candidates.

## Post-Secondary Education

Students will be charged terms of attendance and considered transfer students if they have enrolled as a regular student and attended one or more courses at any of the types of institutions listed below (may not be all inclusive), or any other institution that requires proof of high school graduation as a pre-requisite for admission (subject to review on a case-by-case basis).

University

Teacher training program

Post-secondary programs leading to professional qualifications

BTEC Higher National Diploma or Certificate (Levels 4-8)

Reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the information in this document is accurate, however the NAIA and the NAIA Eligibility Center assume no liability for errors or omissions in the content and information provided. The NAIA and the NAIA Eligibility Center reserve the right to update or change any aspect of this document without notice.