

Scotland

Educational Timeline

- School Year: August-June with exam dates in June (certificates issued in August)
- Primary School is seven years, followed by four years of Lower Secondary School. Students typically sit for national SQA examinations at the end of five years of secondary school (S1-S5) for Nationals 5, Intermediate 1 or 2, or Standards. Upper Secondary is one to two years (S6-S7) and is marked by taking SQA examinations in Highers and/or Advanced Highers.
- 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

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.

SQA SQA – Scottish Qualifications Authority Scottish Qualification Certificate – Summary of Attainment

- Must earn at least five exam passes at National 5, Standard Level Credit or General (S4).
- Must earn at least one Higher, one Advanced Higher, one Intermediate 2, one National 5, or two Standard General Grade in year S5 to extend high school graduation date.
- Must earn at least one Advanced Higher or two additional Highers in S6 to extend high school graduation date further.

Students must have their schools submit school stamped copies of all SQA documents that have been issued to them. Prior to 2007 the SQA was a physical certificate issued from the SQA. From 2007 onward, the SQA is not one certificate, instead it is comprised of a covering letter, Summary of Attainment, Profile and Detailed Record of Attainment. Students are required to submit school stamped copies of the most recent Summary of Attainment.

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

Comparable to less than completion of US high school

- School-issued leaving certificates
- Completion of National 4
- Completion of S4 without SQA examinations
- Completion of less than five SQA exam passes at level 4 or higher
- Scottish Vocational Qualification Level 1-3

GPA Calculation

Calculate the cumulative high school GPA using all exam grades earned on the official SQA certificate entitled Summary of Attainment (for exams earned 2007 and onward) using grades in the section entitled “National Courses”. Use the most recent Summary of Attainment. The GPA for SQA exam grades earned prior to 2007 is calculated using all exam grades listed on the SQA in the section entitled “Courses.” 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 one credit. “National Units” are not used in the GPA calculation and do not extend high school graduation. Only exam grades earned listed under “National Courses” count towards the high school graduation requirement and GPA.

For students completing Highers or Advanced Highers beyond the initial graduation point in August and seeking eligibility determinations for the Fall term, may receive an eligibility determination prior to issuance of their final official SQA 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 pending exams (if GPA is one of the two criteria being used for initial freshmen eligibility) AND
- 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 SQA documents provided:

- The student only completed National 4 prior to starting Highers or Advanced Highers
- The student only met one initial freshmen eligibility requirement at the initial graduation point; and
- 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):

SQA-Standard Grade:

Grade	US Grade	Quality Points	
1	A	4	
2	A	4	
3	B	3	
4	B	3	
5	C	2	
6	C	2	lowest passing grade
7	F	0	

SQA-National 5, Intermediate, Higher and Advanced Higher Grades:

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

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 Standard Grades or National Courses of Level 5 and above. 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 an alternative point of high school completion (allowable high school extensions are listed above in "Group A"). However, students completing tracked or separate degree programs (e.g. Scottish Highers) 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 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

Higher National Certificate

Higher National Diploma

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