

Official Notice 006

Date: 8 April 2021

Title: Level rating and credits

Level rating

MQRIC statements will indicate, when applicable, the level rating and the learning workload, commonly represented as credits, of the accredited programmes of studies. With regards to level ratings, MQRIC may issue one of the following:

1. **MQF [1-8]**

This rating applies to programmes of study that had been accredited either by the MFHEA (previously the NCFHE), Maltese self-accrediting institutions (University of Malta, MCAST, ITS), or relating to Maltese compulsory education. The MQF is regulated by law, thus it cannot be directly assigned under other circumstances.

2. **Comparable to MQF [1-8]**

This rating applies to Maltese programmes of study that were awarded prior to the introduction of the MQF in 2007, and a given programme is substantially the same to a programme of the same name, being awarded by the same awarding body, which both have since received accredited status. These programmes are referred to as legacy programmes.

This rating is also attributable to non-Maltese programmes of study that are accredited by the educational authorities in their respective jurisdictions.

Other programmes that may have been submitted for validation or independent comparative review may be assigned this rating.

This rating has the same value as that under section 1; such rating allows programmes that could not be legally assigned the MQF to be referenced to the same framework.

3. *****

In some circumstances, a comparative rating to the MQF may be subject to specific criteria being met. This criterion will be listed in the additional remarks.

This rating has the same value as that listed under section 1; such rating allows programmes that could not be legally assigned the MQF to be referenced to same framework.

Credits

The MQRIC statement will list, when applicable, the number of credits. Maltese accredited programmes of study only use the ECTS (European Credit Transfer System), or ECVETS (European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training).

MQRIC informs that credits may not always be listed if these are not officially published by the competent regulatory accrediting bodies. Furthermore, credits of foreign programmes of study are not always listed in ECTS format, but according to how they are published in their national credit format. For this reason, the below ECTS convertor is to be used as a non-exhaustive comparative guide as to the value of non ECTS credits.

1 ECTS is approximately 20-30 hours, dependent on the country of award.

ECTS Converter

Country	Credit System	Conversion to ECTS
Italy	CFU	1 CFU = 1 ECTS
United Kingdom	CATS	2 UK credits = 1 ECTS
USA	US Credits	1 US credits = 2ECTS