

Appendix 17 – List of Qualifications Exempt from Assessment (from 29 September 2023)

Note: Appendix 17 does not apply to people who made a Skilled Migrant Category residence application under SM instructions or a work visa application under WI instructions. The List of Qualifications Exempt from Assessment contained in Appendix 3 applies to people who made a Skilled Migrant Category residence application under SM instructions or a work visa application under WI instructions.

The qualifications in this list do not require assessment by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA). Qualifications will qualify for points on the basis of their assessed position on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF) (see SR3.25.5 of the Skilled Migrant Category) and subject to any additional requirements being met as specified in the List of Qualifications Exempt from Assessment.

The List of Qualifications Exempt from Assessment only provides the level and type that an overseas qualification occupies on the NZQF. A qualification being named on the List of Qualifications Exempt from Assessment does not mean that it is comparable to a similarly named New Zealand qualification. It only advises the NZQF level and type that the overseas qualification can be compared to.

The List of Qualifications Exempt from Assessment is for immigration purposes only. The inclusion of a qualification on this list does not have bearing on the status of the qualification for professional registration, further study, salary or employment purposes.

All teaching qualifications and degrees in Education need to be assessed by the NZQA for teacher registration and salary purposes, should an applicant wish to enter the teaching profession within New Zealand.

Washington Accord and Sydney Accord accredited degrees (engineering and engineering technology)

The Washington Accord is an international accreditation agreement for professional engineering academic degrees, between the bodies responsible for accreditation in its signatory countries. The Sydney Accord is an international mutual recognition agreement for qualifications in the fields of engineering technology.

- a. Washington Accord or Sydney Accord accredited degrees are assessed as occupying level 7 on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF) and qualify for 3 points under Skilled Migrant Category (SR instructions). A qualification is a Washington or Sydney Accord accredited degree if:
 - i. it was gained in a country that has signed the accord; and
 - ii. it was accredited as a Washington or Sydney Accord accredited programme by the body representing that country; and
 - iii. it was awarded from or after the date the country became a signatory; and
 - iv. there is no additional information on the relevant country's accredited qualifications list to indicate that the qualification is not automatically accepted as accredited under the Washington Accord or Sydney Accord.
- b. In any case, an immigration officer may require an applicant to provide written confirmation from Engineering New Zealand (formerly IPENZ) that the qualification is a Washington or Sydney Accord accredited degree, if they are not satisfied that the qualification meets the requirements of a) above, or it is unclear as to whether the requirements of a) above have been met. In these cases, the qualification can be accepted as a Washington or Sydney Accord accredited degree if Engineering New Zealand confirms it as such.

Note 1: If an applicant believes their qualification may be higher than level 7, then they should apply to NZQA for an International Qualifications Assessment

Note 2: A list of signatories to the Accords can be found on the International Engineering Alliance website:
<http://www.ieagrements.org/accords/washington/signatories/>
<http://www.ieagrements.org/accords/Sydney/signatories/>

Example 1:

South Africa, represented by the Engineering Council of South Africa, became a signatory to the Washington Accord in 1999. A Baccalareus in Ingenieurswese (Siviel Ingenieurswese) (Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering), awarded by the Universiteit van Pretoria (University of Pretoria) (in South Africa) in 2003 would meet the requirements of a) i-iv above, because:

- South Africa is a signatory to the Washington Accord; and
- A Baccalareus in Ingenieurswese (Siviel Ingenieurswese) (Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering) awarded by the Universiteit van Pretoria (University of Pretoria) is accredited by the Engineering Council of South Africa (the body representing South Africa) as a Washington Accord accredited programme; and
- it was awarded in 2003, after South Africa became a signatory; and
- there is no additional information on the Engineering Council of South Africa's accredited qualifications list to indicate that the qualification is not accredited under the Washington Accord.

Example 2:

Ireland, represented by the Engineers Ireland, became a signatory to the Washington Accord in 1989. A Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Electrical/Electronic Engineering awarded by Dublin Institute of Technology in 2013 would not meet the requirements of a) i-iv above, because:

- Ireland is a signatory to the Washington Accord; and
- A Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Electrical/Electronic Engineering awarded by Dublin Institute of Technology is accredited by Engineers Ireland (the body representing Ireland) as a Washington Accord accredited programme from 2005 - 2017; and
- it was awarded in 2013, after Ireland became a signatory; however
- there is additional information on the Engineers Ireland accredited qualifications list to indicate that the qualification is not accredited under the Washington Accord:

A Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Electrical/Electronic Engineering if awarded by Dublin Institute of Technology in 2013 would not qualify automatically as a Washington Accord accredited programme, because there is a note on the list which states: "For graduates after 1/1/2013 further learning is required to meet the education standard for Chartered Engineer".

An applicant with this qualification would need to consider requesting confirmation from Engineers New Zealand (formerly IPENZ), as set out in b) above, if they believe their qualification is a Washington or Sydney accord accredited degree.

Hong Kong

A qualification is exempt from assessment and qualifies for the indicated points if:

- the qualification and the awarding institution is listed; and
- the qualification was awarded from or within the year listed in the 'effective from' column of the list; and
- The qualification was not completed outside of the country, including any overseas campuses of the listed awarding institution; and
- the qualification is not excluded by the notes listed in the notes section.

Institution	Effective from	Qualification	NZQF qualification type and level	SMC points
City University of Hong Kong	Effective from 2008	Bachelor's degree (with or without Honours)	Level 7 Bachelor's degree	3
		Master's degree	Level 9 Master's degree	5
		Doctoral degree	Level 10 Doctoral degree	6
Hong Kong Baptist University	Effective from 2008	Bachelor's degree (with or without Honours)	Level 7 Bachelor's degree	3
		Master's degree	Level 9 Master's degree	5
		Doctoral degree	Level 10 Doctoral degree	6
Hong Kong Institute of Education	Effective from 2008 to 2016	Bachelor's degree (with or without Honours)	Level 7 Bachelor's degree	3
		Master's degree	Level 9 Master's degree	5
		Doctoral degree	Level 10 Doctoral degree	6
Hong Kong Metropolitan University	Effective from 2021	Bachelor's degree (with or without Honours)	Level 7 Bachelor's degree	3
		Master's degree	Level 9 Master's degree	5
		Doctoral degree	Level 10 Doctoral degree	6
Lingnan University	Effective from 2008	Bachelor's degree (with or without Honours)	Level 7 Bachelor's degree	3
		Master's degree	Level 9 Master's degree	5
		Doctoral degree	Level 10 Doctoral degree	6
Open University of Hong Kong	Effective from 2008 to 2021	Bachelor's degree (with or without Honours)	Level 7 Bachelor's degree	3
		Master's degree	Level 9 Master's degree	5
		Doctoral degree	Level 10 Doctoral degree	6
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Effective from 2009	Bachelor's degree (with or without Honours)	Level 7 Bachelor's degree	3
		Master's degree	Level 9 Master's degree	5
		Doctoral degree	Level 10 Doctoral degree	6
The Education University of Hong Kong (known as the Hong Kong Institute of Education until 26 May 2016)	Effective from 2016	Bachelor's degree (with or without Honours)	Level 7 Bachelor's degree	3
		Master's degree	Level 9 Master's degree	5
		Doctoral degree	Level 10 Doctoral degree	6

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Effective from 2008	Bachelor's degree (with or without Honours)	Level 7 Bachelor's degree	3
		Master's degree	Level 9 Master's degree	5
		Doctoral degree	Level 10 Doctoral degree	6
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Effective from 2008	Bachelor's degree (with or without Honours)	Level 7 Bachelor's degree	3
		Master's degree	Level 9 Master's degree	5
		Doctoral degree	Level 10 Doctoral degree	6
The University of Hong Kong	Effective from 2008	Bachelor's degree (with or without Honours)	Level 7 Bachelor's degree	3
		Master's degree	Level 9 Master's degree	5
		Doctoral degree	Level 10 Doctoral degree	6

Notes: This list applies to bachelor's degrees (with or without Honours), master's degrees that require two or more years of full-time study, and doctoral degrees.