

Frequently asked questions

Changes to City & Guilds Technical Qualifications grade scales from September 2019

Q: What are the changes and which qualifications will they apply to?

A: We're applying new grade scales to our Technical Qualifications:

- City & Guilds Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diplomas (720) - double grading (e.g. Pass Merit, Merit Merit)
- City & Guilds Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diplomas (1080) - triple grading (e.g. Merit Merit Pass, Distinction Distinction Distinction)

The grade scales will affect 19 City & Guilds Level 3 Technical Qualifications as follows:

Code	Qualification title	QAN
0171-32	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Agriculture (720)	601/7451/1
0171-33	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Agriculture (1080)	601/7459/6
0171-38	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Land-Based Engineering (1080)	601/7463/8
0172-32	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (720)	601/7550/3
0172-33	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (1080)	601/7549/7
0172-37	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Equine Management (720)	601/7186/8
0172-38	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Equine Management (1080)	601/7187/X

0173-32	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Land and Wildlife Management (720)	601/7565/5
0173-37	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Land and Wildlife Management (1080)	601/7564/3
0174-32	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Horticulture (720)	601/7455/9
0174-37	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Horticulture (1080)	601/7454/7
0174-38	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Forestry and Arboriculture (1080)	601/7517/5
1145-32	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Engineering (720)	601/4506/7
3605-32	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma for the Early Years Practitioner (Early Years Educator) (1080)	601/7440/7
3624-31	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Health and Care (1080)	601/7200/9
4292-31	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in the Automotive Industry (720)	601/7383/X
5220-32	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Digital Technologies (720)	601/4511/0
6720-36	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Constructing the Built Environment (720)	601/4508/0
6720-37	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Constructing the Built Environment (1080)	601/5640/5

Note: The 360, 450 and 540 GLH Technical Qualifications are not affected, and will retain the existing Pass/Merit/Distinction/Distinction* qualification grade scale.

Q: Why are we making the changes?

- To provide refined qualification grading and increase the range of UCAS tariff points available, via a greater granularity of grading, in order to meet wider variable HEI admissions requirements
- To gain parity of the range of UCAS tariff points

Q: When will the new grading scales come into effect?

A: The new grade scales will be applied for learners completing their 720 GLH or 1080 GLH Technical Qualification from summer 2019.

Q: How about learners who were registered on a 720 GLH or 1080 GLH qualification in September 2017, will the new grade scale apply to them?

A: Yes, if the learner is following a two-year programme and they are due to complete from summer 2019.

Q: When will the UCAS Tariff tables be updated?

A: The UCAS Tariff tables will be updated by September 2018

Q: What are the new UCAS Tariff points for these qualifications?

Qualification title	Grade	UCAS points
City & Guilds Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma (720 - double grading)	D*D*	112
	D*D	104
	DD	96
	DM	80
	MM	64
	MP	48
	PP	32

Qualification Title	Grade	UCAS points
City & Guilds Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma (1080 - triple grading)	D*D*D*	168
	D*D*D	160
	D*DD	152
	DDD	144
	DDM	128
	DMM	112
	MMM	96
	MMP	80
	MPP	64
	PPP	48

Q: Will Ofqual Qualification Accreditation Numbers (QANs) change?

A: No, they will remain the same.

Q: Will Ofqual Register of Regulated qualifications show these changes?

A: Yes, the Ofqual register is already showing the changes

Q: Will the grade scales changes show on Qualification Wales (QW) catalogue?

A: Yes, in due course QW catalogue will show the changes to qualification grading scales.

Q: Will the current content and/or assessment for these qualifications change?

A: No, they will remain the same.

Q: Will the submission of marks to the Moderation Portal change for these qualifications?

A: No, they will remain the same.

Q: How are the current Technical Qualification grades calculated?

A: Our grade calculation guide explains how we carry out grading aggregation of theory exams and synoptic assignments for Technical Qualifications. This can be found [here](#), under the “Universities accepting Technical Qualifications” section. This will be updated next year to show how the multiple grades are calculated.

Q. What about centres with candidates who may be moving to the second year of a two year qualification?

A: City & Guilds 720 GLH and 1080 GLH Advanced Technical Extended Diploma qualifications are designed to be delivered over two years. Where this is the case, the final qualification grade is not aggregated and awarded until the candidate has completed all relevant assessments in the second year. However, all theory exams and synoptic assignments ‘count’ towards the final qualification grade. Our qualification handbooks detail the relative weighting of each assessment towards the final grade (see Section 7: Grading, subheading Awarding grades and reporting results). Any exams and synoptic assignments completed in the first year will contribute to the overall achievement along with exams and synoptic in the second year.

In some cases a candidate may have completed a full qualification in their first year and been certificated for this qualification, then ‘stepped up’ to the two year version of the qualification. Where this is the case they will take forward the achievement they already have in the theory test and synoptic assignment to the full two year qualification, and the overall qualification grade will be an aggregation of their achievement in these assessments and the second year assessments. For learners completing an Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in summer 2019 the overall grades will show as double (720 GLH) or triple grades (1080 GLH) overall.

Q: Can learners progress onto a larger qualification after successfully completing a smaller qualification?

A: Where a qualification shares assessments with the smaller qualification in the first year (i.e. the smaller qualification is equivalent to the content and assessments of the first year of the larger qualification), then this can be done. Note that to achieve the larger qualification, learners will need to be registered for that qualification, and achieve all the relevant additional assessments.

Q: Will centres still receive the breakdown of their theory exam and synoptic assignment scores?

A: Yes, centres will continue to receive the breakdown of their theory exam and synoptic assignment scores and will be able to access the Chief Examiner reports from our website.

Q: Will the new qualification grade scales affect the release date for final results or release date to UCAS?

A: No, they will not.

Q: Will City & Guilds product codes e.g. 0172-33 change and will learners need to be registered on these for September 2018?

A: No, they will not.

Q: Will centres need to be approved/ re-approved for the qualifications where the new qualification grade scales are introduced?

A: No, no action required.

Q: How and when will these changes be communicated?

A: The qualification handbooks and City & Guilds website will be updated to reflect the changes for the start of the 2018/19 academic year. Nothing will change on the City & Guilds Walled Garden.

Q: Can learners progress onto a larger qualification after successfully completing a smaller qualification?

A: Yes, but learners would then need to be registered on the larger qualification at full cost.

There may also be some repetition of assessment where candidates took an optional unit in the 360/540 GLH which became mandatory in the larger qualifications.

It is important to remember that the larger (720 or 1080) qualification will still be aggregated on a 40% (exam) 60% (synoptic assignment) weighting regardless of the overall grade allocated to the smaller qualification.

If centres register candidates on a smaller qualification with the intention of progressing to a larger qualification in the suite, they need to be particularly mindful of booking onto the correct examination for the pathway chosen. Errors cannot be rectified, and centres will need to use the next available exam for the candidates' sitting, and this may only present them with one opportunity 'in year'.

Q: If a learner completes a 360 or 540 GLH qualification and then a 720 or 1080 GLH qualification, will the UCAS points for both be counted, and added together?

A: No. Just the largest qualification will be counted.

We don't re-count the 360 or 540 GLH points they already achieved the year before. When we report the points to UCAS for all relevant qualifications, we only submit the points for the 1080 qualification in the year they achieve it. This avoids any double counting.