

National Vocational Qualifications delivered overseas policy

Document summary

This policy is for centres who want to deliver Pearson Edexcel National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) and competence qualifications outside of England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

This policy details how to apply for approval, how standards verification will work and language requirements that must be met.

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Pearson Education Ltd – our mission and values

Our purpose is simple: to help people realize the life they imagine through learning. We believe that every learning opportunity is a chance for a personal breakthrough. That's why our c. 18,000 Pearson employees are committed to creating vibrant and enriching learning experiences designed for real-life impact. We are the world's lifelong learning company, serving customers in nearly 200 countries with digital content, assessments, qualifications, and data. For us, learning isn't just what we do. It's who we are. Visit us at [pearsonplc.com](https://www.pearsonplc.com).

We are regulated by the UK qualifications regulators Ofqual (England), CCEA Regulation (Northern Ireland) and Qualifications Wales (Wales). Our regulatory policies are integral to our approach and articulate how we meet regulatory requirements. These policies are designed to support centres and students and set out clearly our approach to the design, delivery, and award of Pearson qualifications and services.

1. Scope of policy

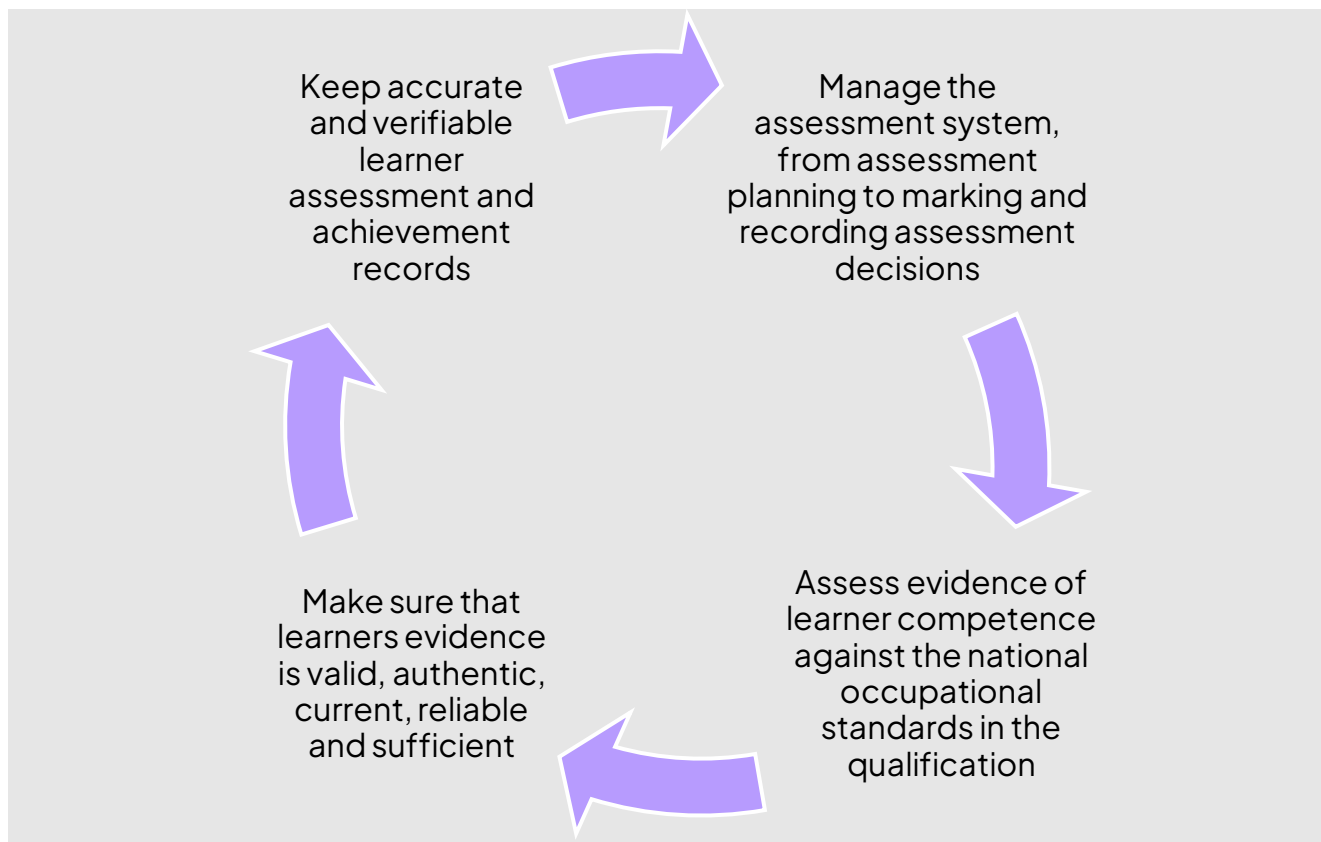
- 1.1 This policy applies to National Vocational Qualifications and to competence qualifications regulated within the Regulated Qualifications Framework being delivered outside of England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. For ease, we will refer to both NVQs and competence-based qualifications as NVQs in this document.

2. Policy statement

- 2.1 **You must apply to us through your Regional Development Manager** if you want to offer our NVQs outside of England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. Each site you are using must have centre approval.
- 2.2 We recommend that you also read our [Pearson Work Based Learning Centre Guide to Quality Assurance](#) and the [Pearson Work Based Learning Delivery Guidance and Quality Assurance Requirements](#) with this policy. All our quality assurance activities and requirements are the same no matter where our NVQs are offered.
- 2.3 There is a risk that if you do not follow the requirements set out, the UK qualifications regulators may take appropriate action if practices could bring the education and training system of England, Wales, and Northern Ireland into disrepute.

Internal assessment requirements

2.4 Your assessors must:



2.5 Your assessors must be both occupationally competent and qualified to do their role. It is important that you provide appropriate training and development opportunities to make sure that they are suitably qualified and maintain their continuing professional development.

2.6 The assessment and internal quality assurance processes must follow the requirements in the [Pearson Work Based Learning Centre Guide to Quality Assurance](#) and the [Pearson Work Based Learning Delivery Guidance and Quality Assurance Requirements](#).

Internal quality assurance requirements

2.7 You must have clear, written internal quality assurance and standardisation procedures to confirm:

- The accuracy and consistency of assessment decisions between assessors at your centre.
- That assessors are consistent in their interpretation and application of the national occupational standards in the award.

- 2.8 You must appoint internal verifiers who are responsible for defining a sampling strategy based on the management of risk factors and for regularly sampling evidence of assessment decisions made by all assessors across all aspects of NVQ assessment.
- 2.9 Internal verifiers must be both occupationally competent and suitably qualified to perform their role. Internal verification carried out by an unqualified internal verifier must be countersigned by a qualified internal verifier who is occupationally competent. It is important that you provide training and development opportunities to make sure that internal verifiers are qualified and maintain their continuing professional development.

Standards verification

- 2.10 The standards verification process must follow the requirements stipulated within the [BTEC International Quality Assurance Handbook](#).
- 2.11 To meet regulatory requirements, we need you to support standards verification by allowing us access to sites, people, and records.
- 2.12 We provide our Standards Verifiers with guides on sampling assessment and internal verification decisions as well as learner and assessment records. The guides include information about what is involved in the sampling strategy. For example, the inspection of evidence, meeting with internal verifiers, assessors, and learners so that the Standards Verifier can check that the process of assessment, as well as the standards being used to judge a learner's competence, meet national standards.
- 2.13 You will have a minimum of one standards verification visit a year. Verification may take place remotely or face-to-face subject to risk. The number of verification visits (remote or face-to-face) may also be increased based on risk and sampling needs by your Standards Verifier, who will review assessment, centre management systems, learner/staff resources. The exact number and length of visits reflects your centre's performance, taking account of the:
- Number of assessment sites.
 - Number and output of learners.
 - Number and turnover of assessors.
 - Number and turnover of internal verifiers.

Assessment in languages other than English

- 2.14 In some cases, we will support the internal assessment of learners in languages other than English, Welsh or Irish, unless otherwise barred by the qualification specification. The regulatory conditions allow this where one of the primary objectives of the qualification is to support a role in the workplace, and **proficiency in English, Welsh or Irish is not required for the role supported by the qualification. This could include**

instances where these qualifications are delivered overseas for people who will not be employed in the UK. Where this is the case, the language of delivery and/or assessment is recorded on the learner certificate. Please read our [Use of Languages in Qualifications Policy](#) for further information.

Cost of quality assurance

- 2.15 You will need to pay the cost of the visits required for conducting the centre and qualifications approvals processes. You will also need to pay for the costs of Standards Verification visits to offer our NVQs outside England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. Your Account Manager can provide the details of these costs.
- 2.16 Verification and reporting will always be conducted by Pearson in English. For verification, you must pay for and provide a translator. Any person providing translation services for you, for the translation of assessment materials should have no conflict of interest, in other words, that the translator has no vested interest in the outcome of the assessment decision they are translating. You are responsible for making sure that the person you contract to provide translation services is appropriately qualified or has a minimum of three years translation experience. Translators and centres will need to sign a declaration. You will need to keep a copy of the declaration and have it available for the Standards Verifier when verification is conducted or for any other audit purposes.

3. Regulatory references

- 3.1 UK regulators require all awarding organisations to establish and maintain their compliance with regulatory conditions and criteria. As part of this process, policies and guides that relate to Pearson's status as an awarding organisation will reference any conditions and criteria that they address.
- 3.2 This policy addresses the following regulatory criteria and conditions:

Qualification regulator or relevant governing body	Regulatory rule or guidance document	Regulatory condition or criteria
Ofqual	General Conditions of Recognition	C1; C2; G2
Qualifications Wales	Standard Conditions of Recognition	C1; C2; G2
CCEA Regulation	General Conditions of Recognition	C1; C2; G2

4. Policy review date

4.1 This policy will be reviewed in August 2026.

5. Useful contacts

5.1 If you are an Edexcel or BTEC centre, please contact your Regional Development Manager or contact us via the [Pearson Support Portal](#).

6. Useful documents

- [Use of Languages in Qualifications Policy](#)
- [Distance Assessment and Learning Policy](#)
- [Pearson Work Based Learning Centre Guide to Quality Assurance](#)
- [Pearson Work Based Learning Delivery Guidance and Quality Assurance Requirements](#)
- [BTEC International Quality Assurance Handbook](#)

7. Version control

Version	Changes	Date
3.4	References to SVQs removed	27 th August 2025