

EDEXCEL INTERNATIONAL ADVANCED LEVEL

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION GUIDE



From the
Pearson Edexcel
University
Recognition
Guide Series –
2016/2017

Edexcel
qualifications from
Pearson unlock the door
to a world of opportunity.

Our University
Recognition Guides
have been written
for students, teachers
and parents to
offer information,
advice and guidance
on international
study options.

PROGRESSION⁺ 

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ABOUT PEARSON

Pearson, the world's leading learning company has a simple mission - to help people make progress in their lives through learning.

Whether at home, in the classroom or in the workplace, learning is the key to improving our life chances. Pearson brings together leading names in education to provide a blend of content, curricula, assessment, training and technology making learning more engaging and effective. We educate a global community of over 3.4 million learners across 80 countries.

PEARSON QUALIFICATIONS

Pearson is the UK's largest academic and vocational Awarding Organisation. We offer a wide range of qualifications for those studying at school, college and within the workplace that are globally recognised and benchmarked. Educational excellence embedded throughout all our qualification brands: Edexcel, BTEC and LCCI.

Demanding, rigorous, inclusive and empowering; our programmes benefit from the traditional quality of the British educational system combined with a progressive, international outlook.

Whatever Pearson qualification you choose – you can be guaranteed to gain the skills, knowledge and confidence to reach your goals.

PEARSON AT A GLANCE



Established over 150 years.



World's largest education company and book publisher.



Employs over 36,000 people across 60 countries.



UK's largest awarding body for academic and vocational qualifications.



Operating in over 100 countries.



Internationally benchmarked qualifications.



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ABOUT INTERNATIONAL ADVANCED LEVELS (IAL)

GLOBALLY RECOGNISED QUALIFICATIONS





This guide has been written for students, teachers and parents to offer information, advice and guidance for those undertaking or considering Edexcel IALs as a study option. It explains how these qualifications enable students to progress to universities worldwide.



WHAT IS AN EDEXCEL IAL ?

Edexcel IAL qualifications from Pearson were created to provide schools outside of the UK with an A Level qualification specifically tailored to the needs of international students. They allow for learning in a local context to a global standard, ensuring relevant and engaging qualifications for students across the world.

EDEXCEL IALS ARE:

- 
Designed for the global learner: Edexcel IALs have been developed to the same high standards as Edexcel GCE A Levels for the unique needs of the global learner. They provide the flexibility to teach a modular A Level qualification with exam options in both January and June - plus an October assessment option in some subjects. This enables students to take examinations at the right time for them.
- 
Focused revision: Exams are spread throughout the course so revision is broken down into unit-sized chunks, enabling students to focus their revision on fewer exams at a time.
- 
Involve and engage learners from the start: With exam results providing formal feedback throughout, student are able to more quickly understand the standard required to reach the level of achievement they are aiming for. Students also have the opportunity of re-taking exams when required.
- 
Stand-alone International AS qualifications: Edexcel International AS qualifications can be taken separately or used as a stage on the way to completing an Advanced Level. This provides international schools and learners with greater choice and flexibility to meet their needs and aspirations.
- 
International Focus: Edexcel IALs contain more international content than their UK equivalent and use local context to ensure learning is relevant and applicable to the students' environment.
- 
Globally recognised qualifications: Edexcel IALs are recognised by local and international universities across the world.

THE VALUE OF EDEXCEL IALs

Pearson created Edexcel IALs in partnership with world leading Higher-Education Institutions, to offer student progression onto a fulfilling and worthwhile study programme. Like all Pearson qualifications, Edexcel IALs have been designed to be demanding in their content, rigorous in their assessment, inclusive in their curriculum and empowering for all.

Pearson commissioned UK NARIC (the UK's national agency for providing information, advice and expert opinion on qualifications worldwide) to undertake an independent assessment of the Edexcel IALs. The findings of **this review by UK NARIC** concluded that Edexcel IALs 'can be considered comparable to the overall GCE A level standard' offered in the UK.

Upholding this internationally benchmarked standard, Edexcel IALs provide confidence to students, parents, teachers and employers of excellence in learning and achievement.



UNIVERSITY PROGRESSION

Edexcel IALs are widely recognised by universities both in the UK and worldwide. All Russell Group universities in the UK (including Oxford and Cambridge) and the Group of 8 universities (Go8) in Australia accept Edexcel IALs. US universities such as Yale, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth College, Caltech and MIT have also approved Edexcel IALs for use as part of their admission criteria as well as Canadian institutions such as Toronto and McGill.

EDEXCEL IAL UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Background

Edexcel IALs are recognised as being of an equivalent standard to the qualifications taught as part of the national academic curriculum in the UK. As such, Edexcel IALs open doors for students wishing to apply to any British Higher-Education institution.

Study at University

Students looking to apply to a UK university should use the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). Pearson sends Edexcel IAL results directly to UCAS. UCAS then processes these results and forwards them onto the university directly. This means that students are not required to gather duplicate certificates or proof of results. For detailed information on options to study at a UK university with your Edexcel IALs, see Pearson's ["How to Study in the UK" Guide](#).



UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Edexcel IALs are recognised by all UK universities, however you should understand the course entry requirements for both subject and grade before applying.



UK UNIVERSITIES OVERSEAS

For many international students, choosing a British degree is about more than just studying in the UK. British universities are world renowned for their quality and traditions of higher education. UK universities have more control over the subjects they can teach, leading to a greater choice than other universities worldwide.

If you are looking for the high standard that a UK degree can offer you, but are not keen on living so far away from home, you may consider one of the British universities that have branch campuses around the world. A growing number of institutions have set up campuses and partnerships overseas to meet the needs of international students wanting to stay in their home country to complete their degree. This includes the UAE, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia; however contact your local higher education regulator to find out if UK degrees are offered in your country.



GLOBAL UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION BY REGION

AUSTRALASIA



AUSTRALIA

Background

The top Higher-Education Institutions in Australia are known as the 'Group of 8' or 'Go8'. This group is a coalition of the eight leading universities where learner success and retention rates are above the Australian average. A higher percentage of students from all backgrounds will graduate from the Go8 than from an institution outside of this group. Graduates from Australian institutions are highly sought after by employers due to the impressive international reputation of the Australian education system.

Study at University

Australia offers a diverse range of study options for international students. As an international student on a student visa, you are required to study with an institution and on a course that is registered on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS). CRICOS registration guarantees that the course and the institution at which you study meet the high standards expected by international students. It is worth noting when making your application for study that the Australian academic year begins in February.

Australian Universities overseas

Australian institutions are following the trend of opening campuses around the world. Monash is among the most active in developing its overseas presence with campuses in South Africa and Malaysia and Study Centres in Italy and India.

Degrees awarded by overseas campuses follow the guidelines for quality set in Australia. There are a number of Australian institutions with more students studying overseas than in Australia itself.



UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

The Australian education system bares many similarities to the British system on which Edexcel IALs are based. As such, Institutions in Australia are confident of the quality and calibre of students that gain Edexcel IALs. Edexcel IALs are widely recognised as a pathway to university education in Australia. Edexcel IALs are accepted by 100% of Go8 institutions.



NEW ZEALAND

Background

New Zealand is home to internationally prestigious universities, which are ranked among the best in the world. Well known for their pioneering research, New Zealand's universities work with high profile organisations such as NATO to NASA. International students from 160 different countries have chosen New Zealand as the destination in which to continue their studies.

Study at University

Individual application requirements are dependent on the chosen course and institution. However, as a guide, those wishing to apply for study in New Zealand should be working towards three Edexcel IALs and be expecting at least one qualification at grade C or higher.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

The education system in New Zealand is based on that of the UK. As such, Edexcel IALs, designed to British standards, are widely accepted as a progression route to higher education. Universities in New Zealand are confident of the quality and calibre of students that achieve Edexcel IALs. Edexcel IALs are recognised by the top institutions in New Zealand including; University of Auckland, University of Otago, University of Canterbury, Victoria University of Wellington and Massey University.



EUROPE



Background

With an established history of high quality education, Europe is home to many of the world's oldest and most celebrated universities. European countries and their educational institutions offer great variety for an international student with the opportunity to experience (and learn) different languages, cultures and landscapes. Studying in Europe can offer all the skills needed for a successful career anywhere in the world. It can also be substantially less expensive without a reduction in attractiveness to future employers.

In the **QS World Rankings 2015/16**, 338 European universities featured in the top 800 (around 42%). Similarly in the **Times Higher Education (THE) World Rankings¹**, European institutions dominate. Germany is the second most represented nation, with 36 universities, almost a third of which are in the top 50. European countries are working closely together to establish agreements ensuring comparability in the standards and quality of higher education qualifications (for example the Bologna Process, which aims to set up a pan-European higher education system promoting quality assurance and ease of student migration)

Study at University

Many European universities are starting to deliver undergraduate degree programmes in English. The European University Central Application Support Service (**EUNICAS**) allows you to search for opportunities by university, country, subject and fee.

If you are applying for a course which is not taught in your native language, (for example you are Sri Lankan and are applying to a university in Germany) you will usually be required to take a language test as part of the application process.

Information on applications and eligibility can be found by visiting the university's website or via government-supported organisations, established to help international students understand and apply to European universities.



¹ **World University Rankings:** When deciding where to study it is worth considering how your university of choice was ranked in the world league table. The **QS World University Rankings** and **The Times Higher Education World University Rankings** are two examples of organisations that have been established to help students make informed comparisons of leading universities around the globe by assessing universities on performance indicators such as research, teaching, employability and internationalisation.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Due to the strong relationships held between European nations, students holding Edexcel IALs will find a long list of institutions to consider for further study, **examples of this recognition are featured in this guide.**



GERMANY

The Central Office for Foreign Education in the Secretariat of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (KMK) in Germany hold information on all foreign qualifications that are accepted for undergraduate degree entry. For detailed information visit **Databan Anabin** directly. Cologne Business School, Technische Universität Berlin (the top institution in Germany and 60th in the **QS World University Rankings**) and the Universität Heidelberg have all confirmed recognition of Edexcel IALs.

NETHERLANDS

EP NUFFIC is an advisory organisation, which offers guidance on the acceptance of international students and assessing foreign qualifications. Their website provides a wealth of information should you be considering continuing your education in the Netherlands.

Admission requirements in Holland are set by the Higher-Education Institutions. Once you have found a study programme of interest you can then **check the admission requirements**. We have formal recognition for Edexcel IALs from: Utrecht University, Erasmus University Rotterdam and Maastricht University (#94 in the world by **THE World University Rankings**).

IRELAND

Ireland is home to top global universities including Trinity College Dublin (which is ranked number 78 in the world by QS World Rankings) and University College Dublin (ranked number 154 in the world by the **QS World University Rankings**) who both accept Edexcel IALs as part of their admission criteria. Students who achieve Edexcel IALs are welcomed to apply to universities across Ireland.

NORWAY

NOKUT - the Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education, formally accept Edexcel IALs for admission to Higher-Education Institutions. As such, students looking to study in Norway are welcomed to apply. Further information on the application process can be found on the **Study in Norway** website.

SPAIN

Pearson issue statements of predicted and then actual Edexcel IAL grades to the Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED) whose responsibility it is to process applications for students holding foreign qualifications. Each statement is used to help UNED rate individual students' performance against the Spanish grading system for equivalent qualifications. Learners wishing to apply to a Spanish university should contact individual institutions for the specific requirements.

EAST ASIA



CHINA (MAINLAND)

Background

Chinese Universities are governed by the Ministry of Education and many are listed in the [QS World Rankings](#) and [Times Higher Education World Rankings](#). C9 universities are a group of nine institutions known as the Chinese equivalent of the Ivy League or Russell Group. Xi'an Jiaotong University - Liverpool University (one of the C9 group) recognises Edexcel IALs.

Study at University

International students who want to study at Chinese universities must meet the requirements set out by both the Chinese government and the university. Applications to study in China can be made online directly with the university or via China's University and College Admission System (CUCAS). Students who are residing in China and studying Edexcel IALs will need to sit China's national university entrance exam, the GaoKao. Every student in China that wants to progress to a university in China must complete the GaoKao, regardless of what curriculum they have studied at secondary school. International students wanting to study in China do not have to take the GaoKao.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Edexcel IALs are recognised at the following Chinese universities: New York University Shanghai, Xi'an Jiaotong - Liverpool University, Sun Yat-sen University and The University of Nottingham Ningbo, China.



HONG KONG AND MACAU

Background

Celebrated for its fusion of Eastern and Western cultures, traditional elements and modern competitiveness, Hong Kong has established itself as one of Asia's dominant economic powers and leading study destination. Hong Kong's institutions are world renowned and many are ranked highly in the World University Rankings – some ranking higher than European and North American institutions.

Lying just west of Hong Kong, Macau is a popular holiday destination. Higher education in Macau follows either the Chinese, British or Portuguese education system, and all courses are conducted in one of these languages.



Study at University

Entry requirements in Hong Kong vary depending on the course and institution. Applications to study can be made via individual institutions.

Students looking to study in Macau need to obtain an F1 student visa from the Chinese embassy in their home country. When applying for a visa individuals will be required to produce their university admission letter and a JW202 Form when visiting the embassy. The university to which you apply will likely to be able to help with this process.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

In both Hong Kong and Macau much respect is given to British educational system on which their own educational systems are based. Edexcel IALs offer the same high standard of qualification as those taken by students in the UK and as such are increasingly recognised by institutions in Hong Kong and Macau. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University's [website](#) references recognition of Edexcel IALs as a Non-local Qualification for admission onto the University's Bachelor Degree Programmes.

Edexcel IALs are also accepted by the following universities in Hong Kong: the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, the University of Hong Kong, the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Recognition of Edexcel IALs is also given by the following universities in Macau; University of Macau, Macau Polytechnic Institute, Institute for Tourism Studies and Macau University of Science and Technology.



JAPAN

Background

Japanese higher institutions are made up of national universities (including The Open University) and local public universities - founded by prefectures and municipalities. Undergraduate degrees courses last four years and the proportion taught in English is increasing.

Study at University

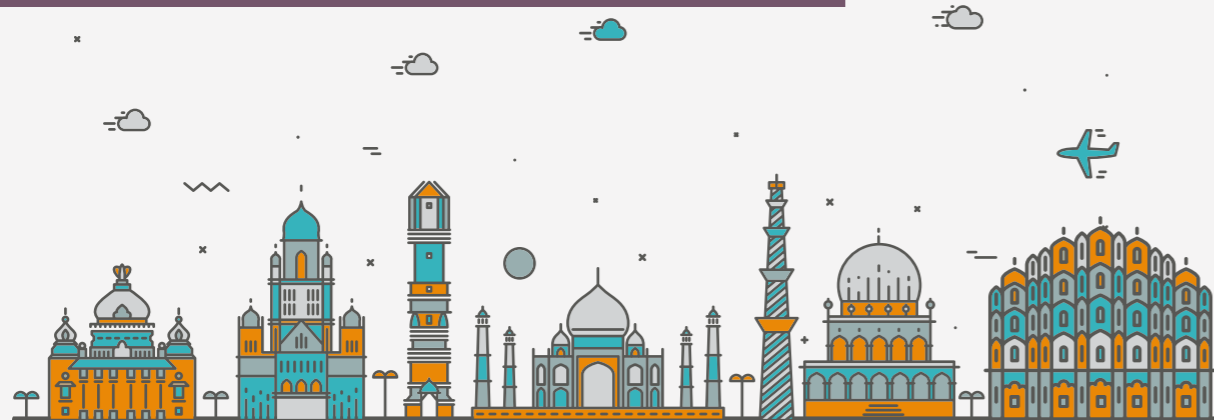
International students wishing to apply to a Japanese institution are often required to sit an entrance examination – 'Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU)'. The EJU assesses an individual's proficiency in Japanese in addition to basic academic abilities. However programmes taught in English may not require Japanese language proficiency and students should seek clarification from individual institutions.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

The following Japanese institutions recognise Edexcel IALs within the admission criteria; Kyoto University, Nagoya University, Ritsumeikan University, University of Tokyo and Waseda University.



INDIAN SUBCONTINENT



BANGLADESH

Background

Since gaining independence in 1971, Bangladeshi arts and culture have flourished and its educational sector has grown. Degrees in Bangladesh are delivered in English or Bangla. Private schools and universities tend to favour English while government sponsored schools use Bangla.

Study at University

In Bangladesh there are 37 public, 94 private and 3 international universities. Students can choose to further their studies in; accountancy, engineering, technology, agriculture and medicine at a variety of universities and colleges. The universities in Bangladesh are affiliated and regulated by University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC). Individual institutions set their own admissions criteria (by converting the Grades into CGPA) based on UGC guidelines. Prospective students are encouraged to contact admissions teams within the universities to understand the exact admission requirements for their chosen course.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

In Bangladesh, all public and private universities, including specialised ones, accept Edexcel IALs. Edexcel IALs are recognised by the Ministry of Education and the UGC. Students are encouraged to apply to universities across Bangladesh. Recognition is offered by the following institutions as an example; Dhaka University, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, BRAC University, North South University, Independent University Bangladesh, American International University and the Institute of Business Administration.



INDIA

Background

With its fast growing and increasingly influential economy it is not surprising that India's higher education system has seen rapid growth over recent years. India now has one of the largest higher education systems in the world which can also be seen as one of the most complex. There are thousands of colleges and universities in India to choose from. The University Grants Commission (UGC) coordinates, determines and maintains standards in institutions of higher education. All higher education courses in India are taught in English.

Study at University

Entry requirements vary between institutions and you need to check with each university or college individually. Admission of foreign students onto top higher education courses in India is overseen by the **Direct Admission of Students Abroad (DASA)**. This scheme which offers a single processing point for applications.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

The Association of Indian Universities (AIU), which is an association of over 500 major universities in India, recognises Edexcel IALs as an accepted qualification for higher-education study in India.



PAKISTAN

Background

Pakistan (officially the Islamic Republic of Pakistan) has a great deal to offer students, with rich diversity in its culture, landscapes and people, as well as well-respected universities. Higher education in Pakistan has grown since its independence from the UK in 1947. The Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC) is responsible for funding, research outputs, and teaching quality. The commission recognises 174 universities, including both private and public institutions. Teaching at universities in Pakistan is conducted in English.

Study at University

Applications must be made to individual universities who will then notify the HEC. For further information on the application process through the HEC please [see here](#). For individuals holding foreign qualifications such as IALs, the IBCC has been established to grant equivalence with corresponding Pakistani Secondary School Certificate (SSC) (Matriculation), Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSSC) (Intermediate levels) and technical education as well as local certificates / diplomas with the comparable certificates awarded by the Boards. IBCC also converts foreign grades into Pakistani marks at SSC/HSSC level.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Edexcel IALs are approved and recognised by IBCC. The equivalence issued by IBCC is accepted by all universities and institutions across Pakistan. Further details can be found [here](#).



SRI LANKA

Background

University education in Sri Lanka is strictly controlled by the government. There are four types of higher education institutions of learning; public institutions controlled by the University Grants Commission; public institutions not controlled by the University Grants Commission, private non-profit institutions and private institutions. The higher education system in Sri Lanka is similar to that of the UK. First Degrees, Masters Degrees, and Doctoral qualifications are all available for study. Due to this likeness between the education systems of Sri Lanka and the UK, those progressing from IAL study to higher education in Sri Lanka will benefit from a smooth transition in their learning.

Study at University

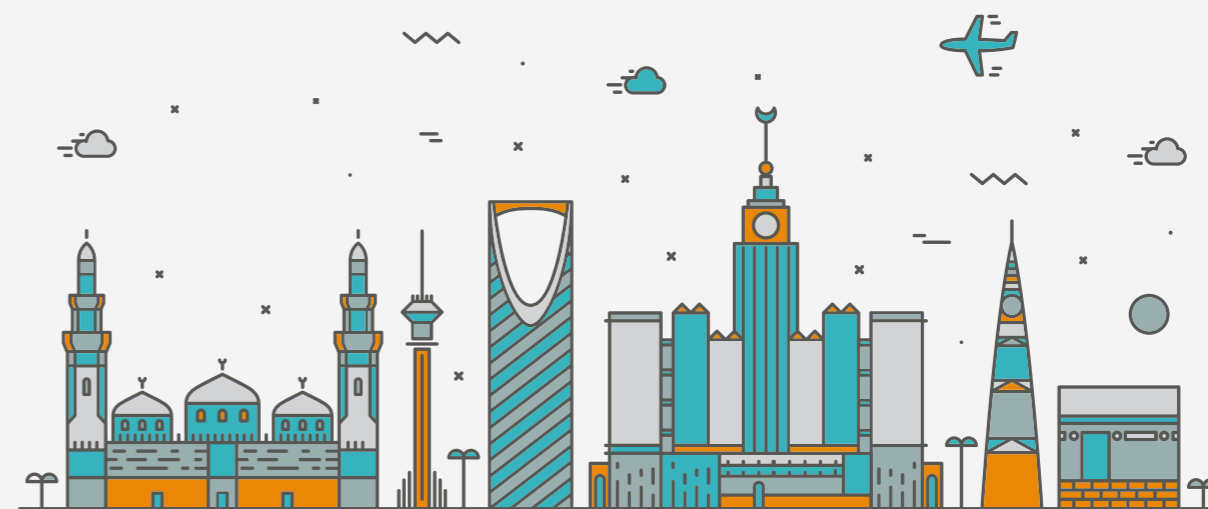
Admission to higher education institutions in Sri Lanka is overseen by the University Grants Commission (UGC), which monitors and maintains the standards of university education, allocation of funds to higher education institutions and the admission of students. To find out more about the UGC in Sri Lanka [click here](#).

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Edexcel IALs are widely recognised by universities and as such students holding these qualifications are encouraged to apply. Edexcel IALs are accepted by Private Higher Education Institutions, Non State Higher Education Institutions such as; SLIIT, NSMB and Kotelawala Defence University. State Universities also recognise Edexcel IALs - the UGC will admit a limited number of students (Sri Lankan and Foreign) every year. Students wishing to be considered by the UGC must have obtained excellent Edexcel IAL results and completed their studies outside of Sri Lanka.



MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA



EGYPT

Background

There are many reasons to study in Egypt, including well-respected universities and the chance to immerse in the country's unique fusion of African, Middle Eastern and Mediterranean cultures. For many students, studying in Egypt is a chance to explore a culture very different to their own, and indeed unlike any other.

Egypt has 20 state universities (with approximately two million students) and 23 private universities (with approximately 60,000 students). Egypt boasts five institutions in the [QS World University Rankings 2016/17](#).

Study at University

To apply to study in Egypt, you will need to provide proof of English proficiency by taking a relevant exam, if you're a non-native speaker wishing to study in English. Further information on the application process can be found on individual university websites.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

The Ministry of Education in Egypt has approved the acceptance of Edexcel IALs in all Universities across Egypt. This includes the American University in Cairo, Cairo University, Ain Shams University, Alexandria University and Mansoura University.



JORDAN

Background

Enrolment in higher education programmes has grown significantly in recent years and as such there are many opportunities for study in Jordan for both those who are native to the region, as well as for those from overseas. Many universities in Jordan offer classes in both Arabic and English, making it easier for students from all backgrounds to study in the region. The largest universities in Jordan are located in Amman.

Study at University

Students considering applying to a higher institutions in Jordan should refer to individual university web pages or the Higher Ministry of Education for detailed information on requirements. Edexcel IAL students will have to apply for equivalency against the Jordanian Tawjihi (the Jordan School leaving certificate) with the Ministry of Education. Once granted you can formally apply through the Unified Admission Unit within the Ministry of Education.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Most universities in Jordan follow the UK educational system and have links with both American and UK universities. Students who have achieved Edexcel IALs will find many opportunities to further their study in Jordan as recognition is widespread.



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Background

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) boasts some of the best universities in the gulf region according to the QS world rankings. The UAE has a growing higher education sector, which is split between three state-funded institutions and 50 private universities. One of the most popular reasons for studying a degree in the UAE is the large number of foreign universities who have campuses there. Universities from the USA, UK and Europe have set up branch campuses in the Emirates to attract students.

Study at University

In the UAE the Ministry of Education requires that all students applying to study have completed secondary education and have had a least 12 years of schooling prior to making their application. Edexcel IALs are a recognised route to study and will be considered if you have achieved at least two subjects at this level. Each institution however has its own subject specific requirements for admission and as such these must be considered when making your application.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Edexcel IALs are recognised by many of the international branch campus universities operating in the UAE. Universities include: New York University Abu Dhabi, Heriot Watt University, Middlesex University, Murdoch University Dubai, Wollongong University Dubai and Michigan State University Dubai.



NORTH AMERICA



CANADA

Background

Canada is well-established as one of the world's leading study destinations for international learners. Canada's excellent academic standards and rigorous quality controls mean students benefit from a high-quality education that will open doors into employment. A Canadian degree is globally recognised as being equivalent to those obtained from the United States or Commonwealth countries such as the UK and Australia. For individuals looking to study at an elite university, Canada offers an attractive option with many institutions appearing in the [QS World University Rankings](#) and [THE World University Rankings](#).

Study at University

In Canada, higher education is administered by individual provinces. The provinces are responsible for their universities through membership to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). Undergraduate degrees in Canada generally last for four years. When making your application you will be asked to choose your subject for study, which is known as your 'major'. Each university has its own guidelines and admission requirements which can be found on their individual websites.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

With great similarities in standards between the educational systems of Canada and the UK, Edexcel IALs are increasingly being recognised as a natural progression route to higher education courses in Canada. As such, Edexcel IAL students are warmly welcomed to apply. The following top ranking Canadian universities offer formal recognition of Edexcel IALs for admission onto their courses; McGill University, University of Toronto, University of British Columbia, University of Alberta, McMaster University, University of Waterloo, Western University, University of Calgary, Queen's University.



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Background

The US higher education system is one of the largest in the world with over 4,500 universities offering undergraduate degrees. Demand to study in the US is growing, in 2014-2015 there was a 10% increase in applications, the highest in 30 years. It is estimated that there are close to 1 million international students studying in the US.

Many international students are attracted to studying at one of the Ivy League Institutions (seen as the most prestigious in the US). There are eight Ivy League schools, which form some of the most selective colleges in the United States, and they also rank among the country's top private universities.

Study at University

American universities use a 'holistic' approach when considering applicants. Whilst placing high importance on a candidate's grades and prior learning they also value character, extracurricular involvement (like sport and drama that are not part of core learning) and any previous work experience.

Credit Evaluation Agencies

When applying to a US university, you are likely to use a Credit Evaluator. Due to the diversity of international applicants, Credit Evaluators provide a common ground for assessing educational credentials. Credit Evaluators support students who have completed all or part of their studies outside the US. Edexcel IALs are recognised by top Credit Evaluators including Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) and International Education Research Foundation (IERF). A university might request that your final Edexcel IAL results be sent directly to a Credit Evaluator and if so this can be done by completion of a simple [form](#) on the Pearson qualifications website.

University Admission Departments

Universities often have their own in-house trained staff to review international transcripts, especially if they actively recruit learners from outside of the US. Edexcel IALs, because of their high standards, are straightforward to assess. However if in doubt the university will ask for the support from one of the main Credit Evaluator Agencies.

Common Application Form

Many universities have their own application system. However, there is a centralised application service, which enables students to apply to approximately 700 universities, known as the [Common Application \(Common App\)](#). This process allows students to provide more background as to why they are a suitable applicant and you will most likely have to sit an admissions test.

GPA

There is no official formula for converting Edexcel IAL marks to a US Grade Point average (GPA) however the following is provided as a guide:

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level	US
A*	A+ = 4.00
A	A = 4.00
B	B+ = 3.30
C	B = 3.00
D	C+ = 2.30
E	C = 2.00

Credit Exemptions

Some universities in the US give credit for advanced standing to students who have completed Edexcel IALs. This reduces the cost and time of completing an undergraduate degree.

The university sets its own policy and the amount of credit will depend on the subject and the grade the student has achieved. Typically, this is around 6-8 semester credits, however some universities award up to 10 semester credits. A US degree is typically 120 semester credits.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

US Institutions recognise the quality of the Edexcel IALs and accept them as being comparable to qualifications gained by both US and UK students. Each year the number of Edexcel IAL students making successful applications to US universities is growing.

Edexcel IALs are recognised by the following Ivy League universities; Columbia University, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, University of Pennsylvania and Yale University. Recognition is also offered by other top US institutions including Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and California Institute of Technology.



SOUTH-EAST ASIA



MALAYSIA

Background

Located in the heart of tropical South East Asia, Malaysia has a growing higher education sector and plenty to offer those considering study abroad. The Peninsular Malaysia is where the highest ranked universities can be found.

Higher education institutions in Malaysia are made up of:

- **Government universities** - There are 20 public establishments (or IPTAs), including: the University of Malaya (UM).
- **Private Higher Educational Institutions (PHEIs)** - Often referred to as IPTS institutions, these universities and university colleges are established by private sector companies.
- **Foreign university campuses** - There are currently 10 campuses that have been set up by institutions based in other countries. These include; the University of Nottingham, Newcastle University, and Monash University (Australia).

Study at University

Whether you are applying to a private university or foreign university branch you must check that they are licensed and approved to accept international students. Private universities need to be approved by the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia, and courses need to be approved by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency. In addition, the institution has to also be licensed by the Ministry of Home Affairs – Malaysia. All public universities can accept international students, depending on the availability of places and the eligibility of the prospective student.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Edexcel IALs combine the quality and rigor of the British educational system whilst offering flexibility and relevant learning content to the international learner. As such institutions in Malaysia, which has based its own education offering on that of the UK have quickly acknowledged and accepted Edexcel IALs as a route to higher educational study. The following universities currently recognise Edexcel IAL qualifications as a pathway to study: University of Nottingham Malaysia, Heriot Watt University Malaysia Campus, Monash University Malaysia, Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia and Curtin University Sarawak, Malaysia.



SINGAPORE

Background

Singapore is a modern, vibrant country with an excellent educational system, and opportunities for individuals who wish to study abroad. A strong emphasis on education began when the British-based education system was introduced by Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles (founder of the Singapore Institution, now known as the Raffles Institution) in 1823. Singapore is today recognised as a worldwide leader in education.

Study at University

Applications for study in Singapore are made directly to the individual university. Information on entry requirements can be found on individual institutions websites.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Edexcel IALs are a popular choice for students wishing to progress to university study in Singapore, as British designed qualifications trusted to meet the standards required for higher education study. Edexcel IALs are recognised by the following top universities in Singapore: National University of Singapore, Singapore Management University and Nanyang Technological University.



EDEXCEL IAL
STUDENTS CAN STUDY AT
UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE

- see our infographic below for examples.

Irsa Nasir

NOW STUDYING

Medicine

AT

University of Toronto

I wanted to study a course that allowed me to learn and think in different ways. I liked the mix of lecture style teaching with interactive elements that enabled me to test my skills in different areas. The course was excellent preparation for university.

Nasim Mirzajani

NOW STUDYING

Chemical Engineering

AT

Yale University, USA

I wanted to study subjects that were relevant to a future career and that I enjoyed. Edexcel IALs provide students with a firm knowledge base.

Alvaro Carrillo

NOW STUDYING

Mathematics-Physics

AT

University of Madrid, Spain

Mathematics IAL provided me with knowledge on a variety of topics that had not been covered in the Spanish system, but were then taught at university. The Physics course provided the appropriate mental structure that allowed me to understand difficult concepts quicker.

Taiyan Li

NOW STUDYING

Mathematics

AT

Oxford University, UK

I chose IALs to gain specialist knowledge and entry to a top university. IALs provided me with the knowledge and techniques to have the same chance as other candidates internationally.

Xiufeng Li

NOW STUDYING

Mathematics

AT

University of Warwick, UK

Edexcel IALs are universally accepted and prepared me well for applying to UK universities. This course of study also gave me a solid foundation for my university studies as it covered lots of different subject areas.

Fei Xue

NOW STUDYING

Computer Science

AT

University College London, UK

It's been my dream to attend a world-renowned university. Edexcel IALs have given me a solid academic foundation for further studies.

Joseph Kah Seng

NOW STUDYING

Medicine

AT

International Medical University, Malaysia

I would recommend Edexcel IALs as the information is very up-to-date. The course was rigorous and enabled me to think critically to stretch myself further.

Cheong Heng Hoe

NOW STUDYING

Civil Engineering

AT

Imperial College London

I have developed a greater passion and understanding of the subjects I studied. Edexcel qualifications are the most established and popular qualifications in the world and enabled me to progress to the UK university of my choice.

Haiyin Lin

NOW STUDYING

Mathematics

AT

University of Tasmania, Australia

Edexcel IALs prepared me so much for university and I was successful in getting offers and a scholarship to the Australian university of my choice.





EDEXCEL IAL UNIVERSITY

RECOGNITION GUIDE

To find out more about how to progress to university with Edexcel IAL qualifications, visit qualifications.pearson.com/progress-to-university

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