

BTEC FAQs

1. What is BTEC?

BTEC stands for Business & Technology Education Council and was established in 1984.

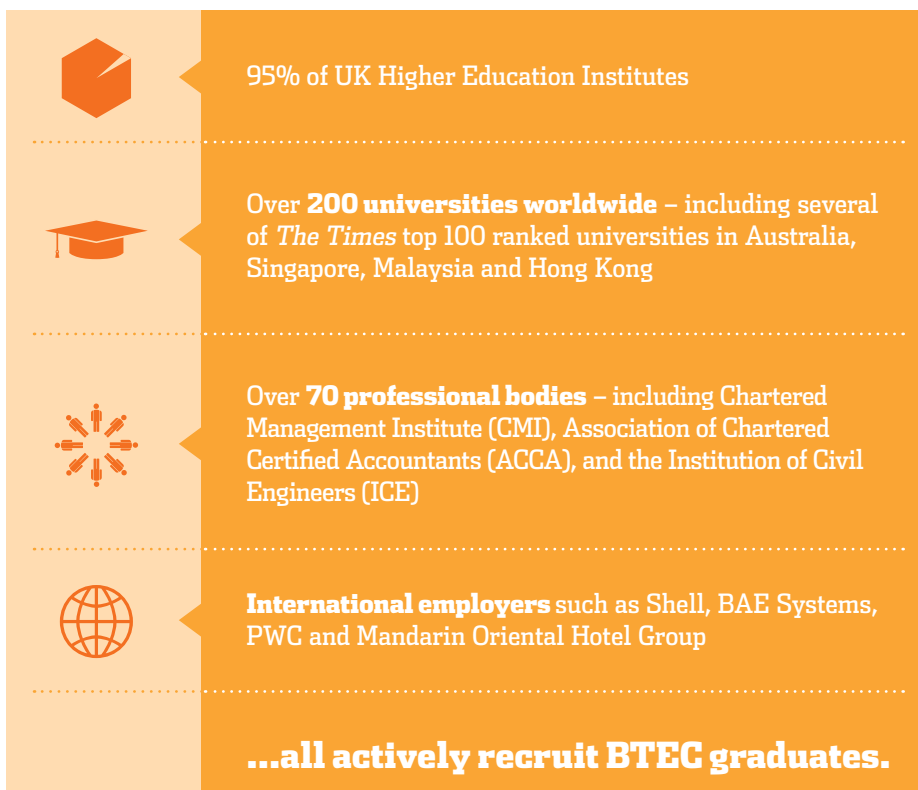
BTEC is a suite of international qualifications taught across the globe by leading educational institutes. Learners who undertake a BTEC qualification develop a blend of in-depth knowledge and important skills specific to a vocational sector such as IT, Business, Hospitality and Engineering

2. Why should I take a BTEC qualification?

There is a growing gap between what employers want, and the abilities of school leavers and graduates. BTEC offers a solution. The content of the course is based on real employer needs, and students are assessed via the innovative BTEC assignment process, which gets students to complete tasks that reflect real industry challenges. The BTEC is shaped to be relevant to your local environment and is taught by professionals with experience and contacts within the relevant industry.

In 2009/2010 alone, over 1 million learners worldwide registered to take a BTEC qualification.

3. Where is BTEC recognised?



The infographic is a vertical orange bar with four sections, each featuring an icon and a text box. The icons are: a hexagon, a graduation cap, a starburst, and a globe. The text boxes are white with orange borders and contain the following information:

- 95% of UK Higher Education Institutes**
- Over 200 universities worldwide** – including several of *The Times* top 100 ranked universities in Australia, Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong
- Over 70 professional bodies** – including Chartered Management Institute (CMI), Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), and the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)
- International employers** such as Shell, BAE Systems, PWC and Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group

...all actively recruit BTEC graduates.

Pearson has a dedicated team who work with a wide range of universities, employers and professional bodies to guarantee progression routes internationally for BTEC graduates.

4. What's the pathway to getting a university degree?

The BTEC level 5 HND is widely recognised as equivalent to one or two years of university education. Everything you learn and achieve can count towards an undergraduate degree and the majority of BTEC graduates are fast-tracked to the second or third year of a degree course at a wide range of leading universities worldwide.

5. How do BTEC HNDs compare to A Level equivalent?

- Distinction* (D*) grade equivalent to A Level A grade (270 points)
- Distinction (D) grade equivalent to A Level grade between B and C (225 points)
- Merit grade equivalent to A level grade between C and D (195 points)
- Pass grade equivalent to A level grade between D and E (165 points)

Each university has a different entry requirement depending on the course subject – so graduates should check their preferred university entry requirements to ensure that their grades reflect the points required.

6. What's the learner experience?

Alexandros Pamnani, 20, from Croydon, decided to undertake a BTEC National Diploma in Vehicle Technology and Mechanical Engineering at Croydon College after realising that A levels didn't provide the specialist knowledge he needed for a career in business management in the engineering sector. Alexandros achieved two triple distinctions, allowing him to win a place at Loughborough University where he is now in the first year of his Engineering undergraduate degree.



"Achieving my BTEC has enabled me to progress to a top university to study for a sought-after degree. Through a combination of academic and practical learning, BTECs give people the skills they need to progress to employment and higher education. The qualification armed me with in-depth knowledge and real-life scenarios that I will be able to apply to the world of work."



Where can I find more information?

Contact your regional representative for more information or visit our website at uk.pearson.com/TEACHBTEC