

How it works

Size bands

- four size bands
- points range of 1-4
- qualifications will be allocated a size band based on their guided learning hours (GLH) / notional learning hours (NLH)
- information is taken from UK qualification regulator and awarding organisation sources
- an additional multiplication takes place for large, multiple graded qualifications that are significantly larger than 320 GLH

Size band	GLH/NLH	Qualifications included	GLH/NLH
1	< 120	IB Extended Essay Free Standing Mathematics Qualifications IB Theory of Knowledge	50 60 100
2	120-219	Extended Project Qualification AS BTEC (QCF) L3 Certificates IB Standard Certificates	120 180 180 200
3	220-319	Scottish Higher	240
4	> 320	Scottish Advanced Higher A level IB Higher Certificates BTEC (QCF) L3 Subsidiary Diploma Pre-U Principal Subjects	320 360 360 360 380

In all instances references to Level 3 encapsulates Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Level 6, plus the Advanced Higher in Scotland.

Size points x grade points = Tariff points

Grade bands

- 12 grade bands
- points range of 3-14
- starts at 3 points as 1 point does not provide a sufficient multiplier effect for lower grades
- the scale is finite – qualification grades operating significantly above A* at A level are considered Level 4. The Tariff only includes Level 3/SCQF Level 6
- ensures that key UK benchmark qualifications such as Scottish Highers can be precisely positioned in agreement with UK qualification regulators
- qualifications will be allocated a grade band using information in awarding organisation regulated information such as qualification specifications
- pass qualifications will be allocated to grade band 8 unless there is evidence in regulated qualification information such as accredited specifications to suggest an alternative approach
- graded qualifications will be allocated points across the Level 3/SCQF Level 6 scale unless there is evidence in accredited specifications to suggest an alternative approach

Grade band examples

Grade bands	A level	AS	Scottish Highers	Scottish Adv Highers
14	A*			A
13				
12	A			B
11			A	
10	B	A		C
9			B	
8	C	B		D
7			C	
6	D	C		
5		D	D	
4	E			
3		E		