

Baseline regulatory requirements

The baseline regulatory requirements are a core component of the approach to assessing the quality of higher education in England, Northern Ireland and Wales. While a different set of regulatory requirements apply in Scotland (under the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 2005), all four nations agree on the core principles the requirements represent. They also agree that: students are entitled to a high quality academic experience; students' interests should be protected; and degree standards should be comparable across the UK. The baseline will be kept under review to ensure it remains appropriate in response to developments in the different countries of the UK.

The baseline requirements are as follows:

- The frameworks for higher education qualifications, as set out in the UK Quality Code for Higher Education;
- The Expectations of the UK Quality Code for Higher Education;
- The relevant code of governance;
- The providers' relevant obligations under consumer law;
- The relevant good practice framework for handling complaints and academic appeals;
- The financial sustainability, management and governance requirements of the relevant funding body, and mission and strategy for higher education provision.

In addition there are some Wales only baseline requirements, as follows:

- Welsh language requirements;
- Alignment with the Credit and Qualifications Framework for Wales;
- Core and common practices within the Quality Code, characteristics statements and subject benchmark statements, where appropriate.