



QQI

Quality and Qualifications Ireland
Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

QQI and VET Learning Outcomes

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QQI Responsibility

- The National Framework of Qualifications
- Setting award standards
- Making awards and validating programmes
- Delegating authority to make awards
- Quality assurance (review and improvement) of further (VET) and higher education and training (HET)
- Providing information on programmes and awards
- Qualifications recognition advice



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NFQ Standards and Guidelines

- QQI maintains the NFQ (National Framework of Qualifications)
- NFQ Levels are described in terms of general indicators of a person's knowledge, skill and competence
- QQI maintains NFQ Award-type Descriptors (Major, Supplemental, Special Purpose, Minor) that specify learning achievements in a general way for all the types of awards recognised in the NFQ.
- We also set Awards Standards for our own QQI awards



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Setting Award Standards

- Award standards are required before QQI can validate a programme of education and training leading to the award.
- Current model = set up a Standards Development Group
- Agree Terms of Reference
- Group includes subject matter experts, providers, industry/employers, assessment experts
- Consultation on draft standards
- Publication of approved standards
- 5 year review cycle for standards



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VET Award Standards

- NFQ Level
- Award Type Major, Supplemental & Special Purpose awards contain minor awards
- Credit value assigned
- Purpose statement
- High level statements on Knowledge, Skill and Competence
- Minor awards contain:
 - detailed learning outcomes
 - assessment information



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CNC Machine Setting and Operations



- NFQ Level 5 (EQF4)
- Special Purpose award
- 30 VET credits (1 credit = up to 10 hours typical learner effort)
- Contains two minors:
 - Milling setting and operations
 - Turning setting and operations
- Overall purpose statement
- High level statements about CNC Machine Setting and Operations:
 - Knowledge
 - Know How & Skill
 - Competence



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CNC Milling Setting and Operations

CNC Turning Setting and Operations



- Level 5 NFQ (EQF 4)
- 15 VET credits each
(1 credit = up to 10 hours typical learner effort)
- Purpose: statement for each
- Detailed learning outcomes relevant to
 - a) Milling setting and operations
 - b) Turning setting and operations
- Learning outcomes presented in the order of
 1. Knowledge
 2. Skills
 3. Competence
- Learning outcomes inform the assessment techniques to be used



CNC Milling Setting and Operations

CNC Turning Setting and Operations



- Begin with active verb related to type of learning outcome and NFQ level
- Example 1: *Summarise the main features of a typical CNC Milling Machine to include the main console controls*
 - *Summarise* = level 5 type verb, indicates knowledge
 - *To include* = indication of range of learning outcome
- Example 2: *Examine parts using appropriate measuring equipment to include the implementation of all required quality control procedures*
 - *Examine* = level 5 type verb, indicates skill
- Learning outcomes inform the assessment techniques to be used and weighting of assessment
 - Skills demonstration 50%
 - Examination-theory 50%



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Programme Accreditation

- Standards are national (set by QQI)
- Programmes are local (designed by provider)
- Any provider seeking programme accreditation must first have approval of its QA system.



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Evolution of VET Standards

- Have developed broader standards at NFQ level 5 and 6 (EQF4 and 5)
 - Being used for craft apprenticeships
- Other developments include:
 - Use of occupational standards where they exist
 - consideration of other models of standards development
- Review of standards – time based, flexibility needed



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THANK YOU!