

The Register of Regulated Qualifications

The Register of Regulated Qualifications will be a new part of the Ofqual website that will list recognised awarding organisations and their regulated qualifications and also organisations approved as unit and rule of combination submitters for the Qualifications and Credit Framework. The Register will be operated by Ofqual on behalf of the regulators of England, Wales (DCELLS) and Northern Ireland (CCEA) and will allow us to fulfil our statutory obligations to inform the public about regulated organisations and qualifications. The Register will replace the National Database of Accredited Qualifications (NDAQ) in late October 2010. The FAQs below should answer your immediate questions, but if you have any others, please contact rits@ofqual.gov.uk.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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1. To view qualifications on NDAQ I use www.accreditedqualifications.org.uk. Will this website address change with the introduction of RITS in October?

Answer:

Yes. The link will change with the new system. It will be <http://register.ofqual.gov.uk>. Please note that it will not be populated until late October 2010.

2. Will NDAQ close down?

Answer:

From Friday 15 October 2010, NDAQ will not be updated, but will remain open to users. As no qualifications will be accredited between this date and the launch of the Register of Regulated Qualifications on 25 October 2010, the data on NDAQ will remain current. NDAQ will not be available once the Register is live.

3. Will I be redirected from NDAQ?

Answer:

Yes. A redirection will be set up on NDAQ when the register goes live in October so you will be able to move easily from NDAQ to the Register of Regulated Qualifications.

4. Will the Register of Regulated Qualifications hold the same information on qualifications as NDAQ?

Answer:

The contents of the Register will be broadly similar to NDAQ, but not exactly the same. The factual information will remain, eg the title and number of the qualifications, its structure or rule of combination and details of the units or components that make it up, but the Register will not contain the descriptive information provided by awarding organisations.

5. Where will I be able to find more information about details of the qualification?

Answer:

The Register of Regulated Qualifications will hold links to awarding organisations' own websites. We hope in due course to make these deep links so that, wherever possible, users are directed to information about a specific qualification. However, initially the links will be to a specific page nominated by each awarding organisation.

6. What information will the Register of Regulated Qualifications hold about awarding, unit and rule of combination submitting organisations?

Answer:

The Register of Regulated Qualifications will contain similar information to NDAQ on an awarding organisation's contact information and will also hold the details of the qualifications that an awarding organisation is recognised to offer which will replace the information currently held on the Ofqual website at <http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/the-register.pdf>.

7. How will an organisation know that its details are correct?

Answer:

The contact information held on the Register of Regulated Qualifications will be taken from the data input to the Regulatory IT System (RITS) by each recognised or approved organisation. It is therefore essential that these organisations keep their own information up to date. The recognition permissions information has been transposed from that held on the Ofqual website (see link in Q5) but without the subject/sector area codes as recognition is no longer at that level of detail.

8. Can you please advise us of the updated "How to Link" information <http://www.accreditedqualifications.org.uk/howtolink.aspx>

Answer:

The system is still in development and consequently it is too early for us to answer this question. The definitive answer will be provided via a link from this page as soon as we are able to.

9. How will the Register be updated?

Answer:

The Register will be updated overnight with any new regulated qualifications and any changes to existing ones, including the setting of new review dates or end operational dates. NDAQ is currently updated in the same way, so the Register will maintain the present situation.

10. What information will I be able to download from the Register?

Answer:

It will be possible to export data to a csv file in the same way as can be done currently from NDAQ. The list of data fields will be supplied via a link from this page as soon as we are able to.

11. Will I be able to search the register for the information I need?

Answer:

Yes. Searching will be as simple and intuitive as we can make it. There will also be help text to assist you.