

Scotland

Background

Academic Calendar	September-June
What is year nine called?	Secondary Two, S2
Where is year nine typically located?	Final year of lower secondary school
Native Language(s)	English
Graduation Timeline	
11, 12 or 13	11, 12 or 13 (see document timelines, below)

ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

This section is divided into three “tiers.” All tiers are acceptable forms of proof of graduation. Each tier has a separate expected timeline for completion and builds upon the previous tier.

Tier One

- Issued prior to August 2015:** *Scottish Qualifications Certificate (SQC)* and *Summary of Attainment* from the Scottish Qualifications Authority - ‘Standard Level’ examinations [Must pass **five** or more Standard Level examinations in separate subjects, at Level Four or higher, to qualify as an acceptable form of proof of high school graduation].

Expected Timeline of Completion	11 years (three years or six semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Scottish Qualifications Authority
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

- Issued August 2015 and beyond:** *Scottish Qualifications Certificate (SQC)* and *Summary of Attainment* from the Scottish Qualifications Authority - ‘National 5’ examinations [Must pass **five** or more National 5 examinations in separate subjects to qualify as an acceptable form of proof of high school graduation].

Expected Timeline of Completion	11 years (three years or six semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Scottish Qualifications Authority
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

Tier Two

The expected timeline for completion of all Tier Two forms of proof of acceptable high school graduation is upon successful on time completion of year 12. Earning a Tier Two form of proof of high school graduation will advance the expected date of high school graduation **one year** from the on-time expected timeline of a Tier One document.

- Issued prior to August 2015:** *Scottish Qualifications Certificate (SQC)* and *Summary of Attainment* from the Scottish Qualifications Authority - ‘Intermediate 1/Intermediate 2’-level examinations [Must pass **two** or more Intermediate 1/2-level examinations in separate subjects to qualify as an acceptable form of proof of high school graduation].

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Scottish Qualifications Authority
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

2. **Issued August 2015 and beyond:** *Scottish Qualifications Certificate (SQC) and Summary of Attainment* from the Scottish Qualifications Authority – ‘Higher-level examinations’ [Must pass **two** or more Higher-level examinations in separate subjects to qualify as an acceptable form of proof of high school graduation (verbally referred to as “Highers”).]

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Scottish Qualifications Authority
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

Tier Three

The expected timeline for completion of all Tier Three forms of proof of acceptable high school graduation is upon successful on time completion of year 13. Earning a Tier Three form of proof of high school graduation will advance the expected date of high school graduation **one year** from the on time expected timeline of a Tier Two document or **two years** beyond the on-time completion of a Tier One document.

1. **Issued prior to August 2015:** *Scottish Qualifications Certificate (SQC) and Summary of Attainment* from the Scottish Qualifications Authority – ‘Higher/Advanced Higher level’ examinations [Must pass **two** or more Higher/Advanced Higher-level examinations in separate subjects to qualify as an acceptable form of proof of high school graduation].

Expected Timeline of Completion	13 years (five years or 10 semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Scottish Qualifications Authority
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

2. **Issued August 2015 and beyond:** *Scottish Qualifications Certificate (SQC) and Summary of Attainment* from the Scottish Qualifications Authority – ‘Advanced Higher level’ examinations [Must pass **two** or more Advanced Higher-level examinations in separate subjects to qualify as an acceptable form of proof of high school graduation].

Expected Timeline of Completion	13 years (five years or 10 semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Scottish Qualifications Authority
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

NOT ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

1. Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) National 4 Examinations
2. Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQ) Levels 1, 2 and 3
3. Scottish Vocational Education Council’s (SCOTVEC) National Diploma Program
4. General Scottish Vocational Qualifications (GSVQ) Levels 1, 2 and 3
5. Scottish Group Awards

GRADING SCALE

Scottish Qualification Certificate National 5/Higher/Advanced Higher Grades	
<i>U.S. Grade Equivalent</i>	<i>Quality Points</i>
A	4
A	4
B	3
B	3
C	2
C	2
F	0

<i>Grade</i>	<i>U.S. Grade Equivalent</i>	<i>Quality Points</i>
A	A	4
B	B	3
C	C	2
D	D	1
No Award	F	0

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

» The following are less commonly known course titles **approved** for use in an academic certification:

<i>English/Native Language</i>	<i>Math</i>	<i>Science</i>	<i>Social Science</i>	<i>Additional Courses</i>
			Modern Studies	
			Business Management taken at the Higher and/or Advanced Higher level	

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- » [Course Title Usage guide.](#)
- » [Determination of Credit resource.](#)
- » [International initial-eligibility flyer.](#)
- » [Student account task information.](#)
- » [NCAA Guide of International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility.](#)
- » [Country-specific webpages.](#)
- » [Multi-country references.](#)