NQ verification 2023–24 round 2

Qualification verification summary report

Section 1: verification group information

Verification group name:	Accounting
Verification activity:	Event
Date published:	July 2024

National Units verified

Unit code	Unit level	Unit title
J1XX 75	SCQF level 5	Preparing Financial Accounting Information
J1XY 75	SCQF level 5	Preparing Management Accounting Information
J1Y0 75	SCQF level 5	Analysing Accounting Information
J21L 76	SCQF level 6	Preparing Financial Accounting Information
J21M 76	SCQF level 6	Preparing Management Accounting Information
J21N 76	SCQF level 6	Analysing Accounting Information

Section 2: comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

Most centres used valid approaches. If centres make fundamental changes to SQA's unit assessment support (UAS) packs, they should submit the amended assessments for prior verification to ensure they cover the breadth and depth required.

Most centres used SQA assessments. Centres used the combined or individual UAS to meet their individual needs. During this verification activity, neither UAS approach proved more popular than the other.

Assessment judgements

Most centres have a clear understanding of the requirements for passing unit assessments and the tolerance in each assessment.

The standard of response to theory questions varies at SCQF levels 5 and 6. Some centres required high levels of detail, while others accepted vague responses without detail that linked directly to the context of the question. Assessors should pay close attention to the 'Judging evidence' section in each UAS pack.

A small number of centres accepted terms such as 'Expected Revenues and Expenses' relating to Cash Budgets. These terms relate to the Income Statement. Candidates should use 'Receipts and Payments' for Cash Budgets instead.

A small number of candidates omitted the full headings for Process and Abnormal Loss Accounts. When completing these accounts, centres should encourage candidates to use the full headings, including the word 'Account', for example 'Process A Account' and 'Abnormal Loss Account'.

Some candidates omitted headings on Cash Budgets, Job Cost Statements and Financial Statements. Although this is not treated as an error in the unit assessment, it is good practice to include them. Centres should encourage candidates to accurately head-up statements, highlighting any errors or omissions to them.

Section 3: general comments

The process of internal verification was evident in some centre submissions. However, a few centres included robust internal verification policies that were not evident in the candidates' completed work. On some occasions, internal verifiers signed and dated the front page or bottom of the page of completed tasks, but there was no indication that they had reviewed each task.

Most centres indicated the number of errors for each outcome, which is good practice. We encourage all centres to adopt this approach. Assessors in centres with exemplary record-keeping procedures provided annotations against each outcome, giving a clear overview of the final assessment judgements, including the number of errors permitted in each outcome.

A small number of centres did not use standard accounting layouts for Financial Statements. Centres can find appropriate and accepted layouts for Financial Statements in the 'Suggested layouts for financial statements in National 5 and Higher Accounting courses' document on SQA's website.