



QQI

10 YEARS

**The international education market
and the vision for ELE in Ireland**

ELT Ireland 18.02.23

National Framework of Qualifications



CLASSES OF AWARD

- Major Award: awarded on the usual final and Technical Certificate level
- Minor Award: awarded on the usual final and Technical Certificate level
- Supplemental Award: confirming that an additional level has been achieved
- Special Purpose Award: awarded to students who complete a specific programme
- Professional Award: awarded to students who complete a specific programme

IRISH REGISTER OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Key Information
- Call Number
- Provider
- Course
- Visit Website

What is the international education mark?

- Part of the Qualifications and Quality Assurance Act of 2012, as amended in 2019
- Part of a suite of measures designed to protect learners
- Quality assurance, qualifications, regulatory matters
- Welfare and pastoral care of learners
- Quality and consistency of learning experience
- Recognition of learning achievements

Suite of measures include:

- Inclusion of awards on the National Framework of Qualifications
- Academic integrity
- Due diligence assessment
- Learner Protection Fund
- International education mark



Who will apply for the mark?

Higher Education Providers

English Language Education Providers



Authorisation conditions and requirements

Public HE providers

- Established QA procedures
- Established access, transfer and progression(ATP) arrangements
- Programmes/awards included in the National Framework of Qualifications
- Compliance with HE Code of Practice

Private HE Providers

- Established QA procedures
- Established access, transfer and progression arrangements
- Programmes/awards included in the National framework of Qualifications
- Compliance with due diligence requirements
- Participation in national Protection of Enrolled Learners (PEL) Scheme
- Compliance with the HE Code of Practice

ELE Providers

- Compliance with new quality assurance guidelines for ELE
- Compliance with due diligence requirements
- Participation in national Protection of Enrolled Learners (PEL) Scheme
- Compliance with ELE Code of Practice

The Codes of Practice

HE Code (public and private providers)

Supplements statutory quality assurance infrastructure

Sets out principles and criteria relating to:

- Accurate information provision to international learners
- Fair, transparent and consistent admission policies that encompass an institution's role in qualifications' recognition
- English language policy
- Transnational and online provision leading to awards on NFQ
- Ethical marketing and recruitment
- Fees, refunds and subsistence
- Pastoral and academic supports for international learners


ELE Code (largely private providers)

Establishes statutory QA infrastructure for ELE, supplemented by statutory guidelines for ELE

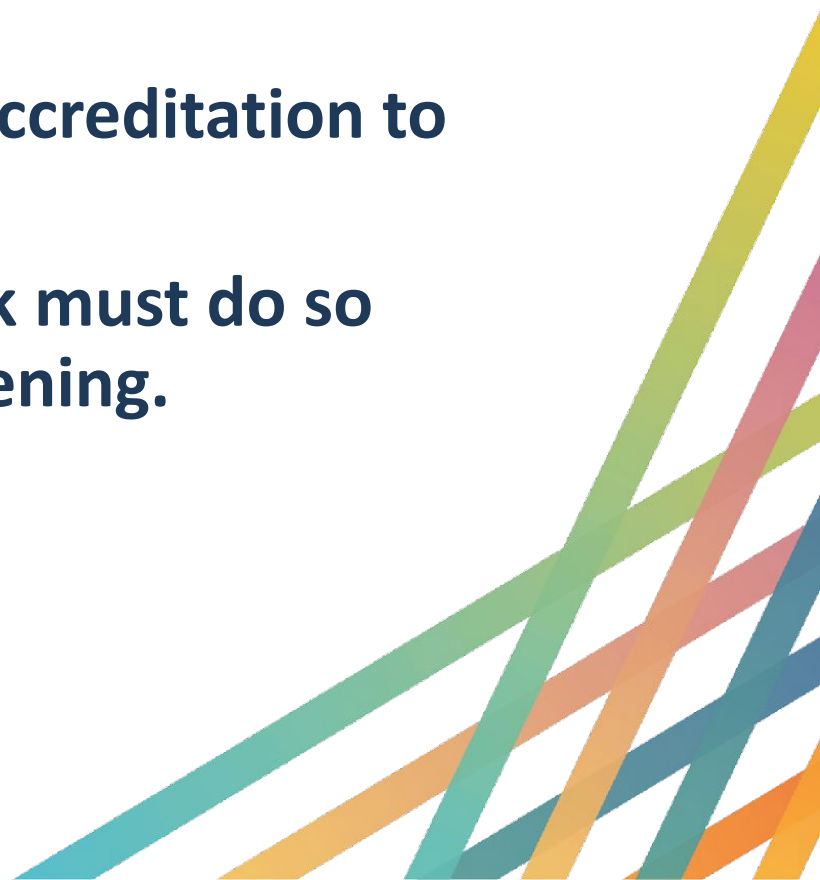
Sets out principles and criteria relating to:

- Requirements for premises
- Operational, risk and human resources management
- Quality assurance structure
- Academic management structure
- Programme design
- Staff supports, conditions and development
- Ethical marketing and recruitment
- Enrolment, fees, refunds and subsistence
- Pastoral and academic supports for international learners


Statutory QA Guidelines for ELE

- **ELE sector specific guidelines**
 - **Compatible with QQI's core statutory QA guidelines**
 - **Support programme alignment to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)**
 - **Briefings for ELE and HE providers**
 - **Q&A sessions**
 - **Podcast series**
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ACELS Scheme

- ACELS scheme to be discontinued and replaced by new mark
 - ACELS providers will follow same application process as all providers
 - Transition period for ELE providers with ACELS accreditation to complete initial application and review process
 - ACELS providers who wish to apply for the mark must do so within six months of the application process opening.
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Interim List of Eligible Programmes and Irish Register of Qualifications

- Irish Register of Qualifications (IRQ) to replace the Interim List of Eligible Programmes (ILEP)
 - Transition period
 - IRQ to become information source on HE and ELE providers
 - IRQ to support national policy & strategy on international education and immigration
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English language examinations

- **Selection criteria to be established**
- **Consultation with stakeholders from ELE & HE sectors, representatives & examination boards**



IEM development and implementation

Policy and Codes

- *ELE Code of Practice*
- *Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines for ELE*
- *HE Code of Practice*
- *Policy on Authorisation*

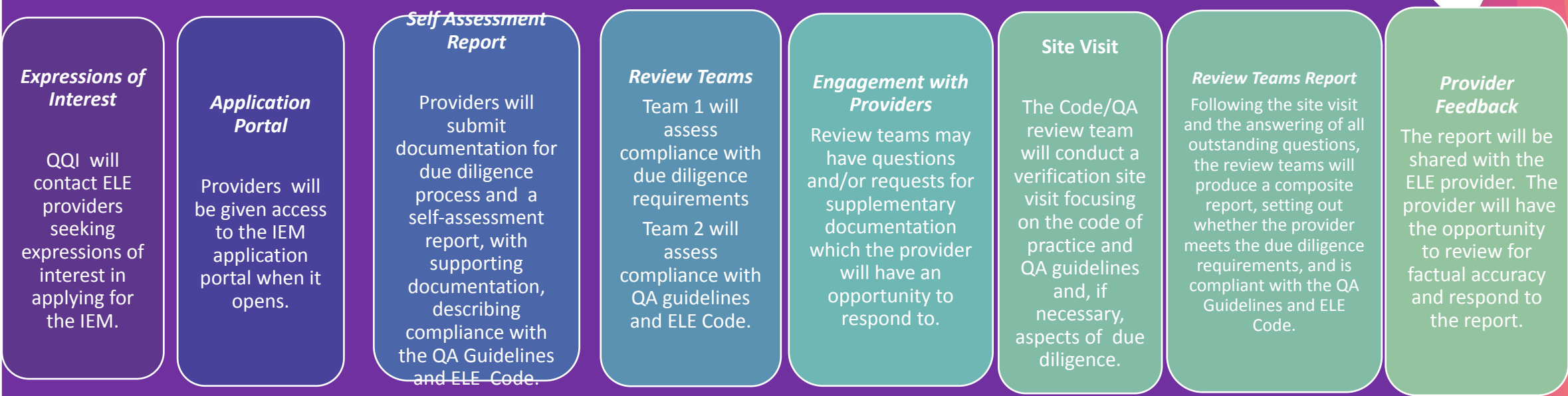
Branding

- **TrustED IRELAND**

Applications

- Aim is to open application portal in Q3

IEM Application and Review Process: ELE



IEM Application and Review Process: HE

Expressions of Interest

QQI will contact HE providers seeking expressions of interest in applying for the IEM.

Application Portal

Providers that have expressed an interest will be given access to the IEM application portal, when it opens.

Self-Assessment Report

Providers will submit a self-assessment report evidencing compliance with the HE Code.

Review Team

QQI will establish a review team that will evaluate provider compliance with the code

Engagement with Providers

The review teams may come back with questions and/ or requests for supplementary documentation which the provider will have an opportunity to respond to.

Review Team Report

The review team will produce a report, setting out whether the provider is in compliance with the HE Code.

Provider Feedback

The report will be shared with the HE provider. The provider will have the opportunity to review for factual accuracy and respond to the report.

Internal Governance and Authorisation

English Language Education Providers

QQI Internal Governance

The self-assessment report and the Review Teams' composite report (including the provider's response), will be considered by QQI's Approval and Reviews Committee

Authorisation

The Approval and Reviews Committee will grant authorisation or refuse authorisation to the ELE provider to use the mark. Authorisation may be granted with conditions. Where authorisation is refused, a provider may appeal.

Higher Education Providers

QQI Internal Governance

The self -assessment report and the Review Team's evaluation report (including the provider's response) will be considered by QQI's Approval and Reviews Committee

Authorisation

The Approval and Reviews Committee will grant authorisation or refuse authorisation to the HE provider to use the mark. Authorisation may be granted with conditions, including, where necessary, a site visit. Where authorisation is refused a provider may appeal.

The new mark will be an opportunity for

- the international learner
- Irish education & training system
- ELE & HE providers
- QQI



What is the opportunity for the international learner?

- reliable guide to trusted, quality assured providers
- ethical recruitment
- quality & consistency of their learning experience
- protection of their programme

What is the opportunity for the Irish education & training system?

- further enhances Ireland's reputation internationally
- supports Ireland's international education strategy
- supports Ireland's immigration strategy
- facilitates key messaging about Irish education & training

What is the opportunity for QQI?

- strengthens existing QA & qualifications policies
- helps to establish QA policy in emerging areas
- establishes formal statutory engagement with ELE sector

What is the opportunity for ELE & HE providers?

- provides state attestation of the quality of providers
- supports marketing and promotion
- self-esteem nationally and on international stage
- establishes clear, nationally agreed threshold standards
- establishes relationship with QQI
- establishes and builds on relationships among providers





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