

**Approval of the Application
by Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI)
for Renewal of Inclusion on the Register**

Register Committee
1-2 July 2024

Ref. RC43/A154
Ver. 1.0
Date 2024-07-04
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Application of:	2023-07-03		
Agency registered since:	2015-06-05		
Type of review:	Targeted	Site visit:	2023-02-01
External review report of:	2024-05-31	Submitted:	2024-06-12
Review coordinated by:	European Association for Quality Assurance of Higher Education (ENQA)		
Review panel members:	Alexandra-Simona Zamfir, Maria João Machado Pires da Rosa, Rowena Pelik, Ulf Hedbjörk		
Decision of:	2024-07-02		
Registration until:	2029-05-31		
Absented themselves from decision-making:	Lewis Purser		
Attachments:	1. External Review Report, 2024-05-31 2. Eligibility clarification (minuted), 2023-08-20 3. Substantive Change Report, 2023-11-29		

1. The application of 2023-07-03 adhered to the requirements of the EQAR Procedures for Applications.
2. The Register Committee confirmed eligibility of the application on 2023-08-28 having considered clarification received from QQI on 2023-08-20.
3. The Register Committee noted that since the last renewal of registration (of 2019-11-05), QQI concluded and discontinued the activity *Re-engagement process for non-public providers* (see [2023-11-29 Substantive Change Report](#) (point 3)); hence the issues leading to partial compliance regarding ESG 2.3 – Implementation process ceased to exist. The Committee nevertheless took into consideration the panel’s analysis and recommendations, and concurred that now the agency is compliant with the standard.
4. The Register Committee considered the targeted external review report of 2024-05-31 on the compliance of QQI with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG, 2015 version).

Analysis:

5. In considering QQI's compliance with the ESG, the Register Committee took into account the following activities:

- *Institutional Quality Monitoring and Review*
- *Approval of Providers' QA Procedures*
- *Programme Validation and Revalidation*
- *Delegated Authority to Make Awards*
- *Focussed Reviews*

6. The following activities are not within the scope of the ESG and, thus, not pertinent to the application inclusion on the Register:

- *External Quality Assurance of Education and Training Boards*
- *QA Approval of FET Providers*
- *Validate, monitor and review programmes of FET Providers*
- *Maintain the Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NQF)*
- *NARIC Ireland*

7. The Register Committee found that the report provides sufficient evidence and analysis on QQI's level of compliance with the ESG.

8. With regard to the specific European Standards, the Register Committee considered the following:

ESG 2.1 – Consideration of internal quality assurance

9. In its previous decision the Register Committee found the agency to be compliant with ESG 2.1. As per the *Policy on Targeted Reviews*, ESG 2.1 shall always be part of the external review process. The Register Committee noted that all procedures share an underlying framework infrastructure for all of its external quality assurance activities that reflects well the standards of ESG Part 1.

10. The Committee therefore concurred with the panel's conclusion that QQI continues to be compliant with ESG 2.1

11. For the remaining standards, the Register Committee was able to concur with the review panel's analysis and conclusion without further comments.

Conclusion:

12. Based on the external review report and the considerations above, the Register Committee concluded that QQI demonstrated compliance with the ESG (Parts 2 and 3) as follows:

Standard	Previous decision (2019-11-05)	Review panel conclusion	Register Committee conclusion

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2.1	Compliance	Compliance	Compliance
2.2	Compliance	<i>Inherited</i>	Compliance
2.3	Partial compliance ¹	Implied	Compliance
2.4	Compliance	<i>Inherited</i>	Compliance
2.5	Compliance	<i>Inherited</i>	Compliance
2.6	Compliance	<i>Inherited</i>	Compliance
2.7	Compliance	<i>Inherited</i>	Compliance
3.1	Compliance	<i>Inherited</i>	Compliance
3.2	Compliance	<i>Inherited</i>	Compliance
3.3	Compliance	<i>Inherited</i>	Compliance
3.4	Compliance	<i>Inherited</i>	Compliance
3.5	Compliance	<i>Inherited</i>	Compliance
3.6	Compliance	<i>Inherited</i>	Compliance
3.7	Compliance	(not expected)	Compliance (by virtue of applying)

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13. QCI therefore continues to comply substantially with the ESG as a whole.

14. The Register Committee therefore renewed QCI's inclusion on the Register. QCI's renewed inclusion) shall be valid until 2029-05-31².

¹See [Substantive Change Report 2023-11-29](#)

² Inclusion is valid for five years from the date of the external review report, see §3.25 of the EQAR Procedures for Applications.

Application by Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) for Renewal of Registration

Register Committee

Minutes of Online Conversation

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Date 2023-08-20
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Date of the conversation:	2023-08-20
Representative of QQI:	Marie Gould
Representative of EQAR:	Magalie Soenen, Aleksandra Zhivkovikj

1. QQI has submitted on 2023-07-03 an application for renewal of registration via targeted review on the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR).
2. In order to prepare the deliberations of the Register Committee on the eligibility of the application and QQI's activities within the scope of the ESG, EQAR contacted QQI to clarify the matter(s) below.
3. QQI agreed to clarify the matter(s) by means of an online conversation.
4. The procedure "Re – engagement process for non – public providers" has been completed in 2020. The procedure was short lived as it was a one-off process, required by legislation.
5. The agency does not have a separate procedure "Thematic analysis" as noted in the in the application form. The agency referred to the standard 3.4 as a focus area of the thematic analysis in the description of the activities – the agency confirmed that this was a misunderstanding.