

---

*Changes to legislation:* There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Companies Act 2006. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

## SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULE 11 **U.K.**

Section 1220

#### RECOGNISED PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

##### PART 1 **U.K.**

#### GRANT AND REVOCATION OF RECOGNITION OF A PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION

##### *Application for recognition of professional qualification*

- 1 (1) A qualifying body may apply to the Secretary of State for an order declaring a qualification offered by it to be a recognised professional qualification for the purposes of this Part of this Act (“a recognition order”).
- (2) In this Part of this Act “a recognised qualifying body” means a qualifying body offering a recognised professional qualification.
- (3) Any application must be—
  - (a) made in such manner as the Secretary of State may direct, and
  - (b) accompanied by such information as the Secretary of State may reasonably require for the purpose of determining the application.
- (4) At any time after receiving an application and before determining it the Secretary of State may require the applicant to furnish additional information.
- (5) The directions and requirements given or imposed under sub-paragraphs (3) and (4) may differ as between different applications.
- (6) The Secretary of State may require any information to be furnished under this paragraph to be in such form or verified in such manner as he may specify.
- (7) In the case of examination standards, the verification required may include independent moderation of the examinations over such a period as the Secretary of State considers necessary.
- (8) Every application must be accompanied by—
  - (a) a copy of the applicant's rules, and
  - (b) a copy of any guidance issued by the applicant in writing.
- (9) The reference in sub-paragraph (8)(b) to guidance issued by the applicant is a reference to any guidance or recommendation—
  - (a) issued or made by it to all or any class of persons holding or seeking to hold a qualification, or approved or seeking to be approved by the body for the purposes of giving practical training,
  - (b) relevant for the purposes of this Part of this Act, and
  - (c) intended to have continuing effect,

---

*Changes to legislation:* There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Companies Act 2006. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

including any guidance or recommendation relating to a matter within sub-paragraph (10).

- (10) The matters within this sub-paragraph are—
- (a) admission to or expulsion from a course of study leading to a qualification,
  - (b) the award or deprivation of a qualification, and
  - (c) the approval of a person for the purposes of giving practical training or the withdrawal of such an approval,
- so far as relevant for the purposes of this Part of this Act.

#### *Grant and refusal of recognition*

- 2
- (1) The Secretary of State may, on an application duly made in accordance with paragraph 1 and after being furnished with all such information as he may require under that paragraph, make or refuse to make a recognition order in respect of the qualification in relation to which the application was made.
  - (2) The Secretary of State may make a recognition order only if it appears to him, from the information furnished by the applicant and having regard to any other information in his possession, that the requirements of Part 2 of this Schedule are satisfied in relation to the qualification.
  - (3) Where the Secretary of State refuses an application for a recognition order he must give the applicant a written notice to that effect specifying which requirements, in his opinion, are not satisfied.
  - (4) A recognition order must state the date on which it takes effect.

#### *Revocation of recognition*

- 3
- (1) A recognition order may be revoked by a further order made by the Secretary of State if at any time it appears to him—
    - (a) that any requirement of Part 2 of this Schedule is not satisfied in relation to the qualification to which the recognition order relates, or
    - (b) that the qualifying body has failed to comply with any obligation imposed on it by or by virtue of this Part of this Act.
  - (2) An order revoking a recognition order must state the date on which it takes effect, which must be after the period of three months beginning with the date on which the revocation order is made.
  - (3) Before revoking a recognition order the Secretary of State must—
    - (a) give written notice of his intention to do so to the qualifying body,
    - (b) take such steps as he considers reasonably practicable for bringing the notice to the attention of persons holding the qualification or in the course of studying for it, and
    - (c) publish the notice in such manner as he thinks appropriate for bringing it to the attention of any other persons who are in his opinion likely to be affected.
  - (4) A notice under sub-paragraph (3) must—
    - (a) state the reasons for which the Secretary of State proposes to act, and
    - (b) give particulars of the rights conferred by sub-paragraph (5).

---

*Changes to legislation:* There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Companies Act 2006. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

- (5) A person within sub-paragraph (6) may, within the period of three months beginning with the date of service or publication or such longer period as the Secretary of State may allow, make written representations to the Secretary of State and, if desired, oral representations to a person appointed for that purpose by the Secretary of State.
- (6) The persons within this sub-paragraph are—
  - (a) the qualifying body on which a notice is served under sub-paragraph (3),
  - (b) any person holding the qualification or in the course of studying for it, and
  - (c) any other person who appears to the Secretary of State to be affected.
- (7) The Secretary of State must have regard to any representations made in accordance with sub-paragraph (5) in determining whether to revoke the recognition order.
- (8) If in any case the Secretary of State considers it essential to do so in the public interest he may revoke a recognition order without regard to the restriction imposed by sub-paragraph (2), even if—
  - (a) no notice has been given or published under sub-paragraph (3), or
  - (b) the period of time for making representations in pursuance of such a notice has not expired.
- (9) An order revoking a recognition order may contain such transitional provision as the Secretary of State thinks necessary or expedient.
- (10) A recognition order may be revoked at the request or with the consent of the qualifying body and any such revocation is not subject to—
  - (a) the restrictions imposed by sub-paragraphs (1) and (2), or
  - (b) the requirements of sub-paragraphs (3) to (5) and (7).
- (11) On making an order revoking a recognition order the Secretary of State must—
  - (a) give written notice of the making of the order to the qualifying body,
  - (b) take such steps as he considers reasonably practicable for bringing the making of the order to the attention of persons holding the qualification or in the course of studying for it, and
  - (c) publish a notice of the making of the order in such manner as he thinks appropriate for bringing it to the attention of any other persons who are in his opinion likely to be affected.

#### *Transitional provision*

- 4 A recognition order made and not revoked under—
  - (a) paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 12 to the Companies Act 1989 (c. 40), or
  - (b) paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 12 to the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1990 (S.I. 1990/593 (N.I. 5)),before the commencement of this Chapter of this Part of this Act is to have effect after the commencement of this Chapter as a recognition order made under paragraph 2(1) of this Schedule.

#### *Orders not statutory instruments*

- 5 Orders under this Part of this Schedule shall not be made by statutory instrument.

---

*Changes to legislation:* There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Companies Act 2006. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

## PART 2 **U.K.**

### REQUIREMENTS FOR RECOGNITION OF A PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION

#### *Entry requirements*

- 6 (1) The qualification must only be open to persons who—
- (a) have attained university entrance level, or
  - (b) have a sufficient period of professional experience.
- (2) In relation to a person who has not been admitted to a university or other similar establishment in the United Kingdom, “attaining university entrance level” means—
- (a) being educated to such a standard as would entitle him to be considered for such admission on the basis of—
    - (i) academic or professional qualifications obtained in the United Kingdom and recognised by the Secretary of State to be of an appropriate standard, or
    - (ii) academic or professional qualifications obtained outside the United Kingdom which the Secretary of State considers to be of an equivalent standard, or
  - (b) being assessed, on the basis of written tests of a kind appearing to the Secretary of State to be adequate for the purpose (with or without oral examination), as of such a standard of ability as would entitle him to be considered for such admission.
- (3) The assessment, tests and oral examination referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(b) may be conducted by—
- (a) the qualifying body, or
  - (b) some other body approved by the Secretary of State.
- (4) The reference in sub-paragraph (1)(b) to “a sufficient period of professional experience” is to not less than seven years' experience in a professional capacity in the fields of finance, law and accountancy.

#### *Requirement for theoretical instruction or professional experience*

- 7 (1) The qualification must be restricted to persons who—
- (a) have completed a course of theoretical instruction in the subjects prescribed for the purposes of paragraph 8, or
  - (b) have a sufficient period of professional experience.
- (2) The reference in sub-paragraph (1)(b) to “a sufficient period of professional experience” is to not less than seven years' experience in a professional capacity in the fields of finance, law and accountancy.

#### *Examination*

- 8 (1) The qualification must be restricted to persons who have passed an examination (at least part of which is in writing) testing—
- (a) theoretical knowledge of the subjects prescribed for the purposes of this paragraph by regulations made by the Secretary of State, and
  - (b) ability to apply that knowledge in practice,

---

**Changes to legislation:** There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Companies Act 2006. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

and requiring a standard of attainment at least equivalent to that required to obtain a degree from a university or similar establishment in the United Kingdom.

- (2) The qualification may be awarded to a person without his theoretical knowledge of a subject being tested by examination if he has passed a university or other examination of equivalent standard in that subject or holds a university degree or equivalent qualification in it.
- (3) The qualification may be awarded to a person without his ability to apply his theoretical knowledge of a subject in practice being tested by examination if he has received practical training in that subject which is attested by an examination or diploma recognised by the Secretary of State for the purposes of this paragraph.
- (4) Regulations under this paragraph are subject to negative resolution procedure.

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** Sch. 11 para. 8(1)(a): functions transferred (temp.) (1.3.2008) by [The Statutory Auditors \(Delegation of Functions etc\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/496\)](#), **art. 3**

**Commencement Information**

- II** Sch. 13 para. 8 wholly in force at 6.4.2008; Sch. 13 para. 8 not in force at Royal Assent, see s. 1300; Sch. 13 para. 8 in force for specified purposes at 20.1.2007 by [S.I. 2006/3428](#), **art. 3(3)** (subject to [art. 5](#), [Sch. 1](#) and with [arts. 6, 8](#), [Sch. 5](#)); Sch. 13 para. 8 in force at 6.4.2008 by [S.I. 2007/3495](#), **art. 3(1)(u)** (with savings in [arts. 7, 12](#), [Sch. 4 paras. 37-42](#))

*Practical training*

- 9 (1) The qualification must be restricted to persons who have completed at least three years' practical training of which—
- (a) part was spent being trained in statutory audit work, and
  - (b) a substantial part was spent being trained in statutory audit work or other audit work of a description approved by the Secretary of State as being similar to statutory audit work.
- (2) For the purpose of sub-paragraph (1) “statutory audit work” includes the work of a person appointed as the auditor of a person under the law of a country or territory outside the United Kingdom where it appears to the Secretary of State that the law and practice with respect to the audit of accounts is similar to that in the United Kingdom.
- (3) The training must be given by persons approved by the body offering the qualification as persons whom the body is satisfied, in the light of undertakings given by them and the supervision to which they are subject (whether by the body itself or some other body or organisation), will provide adequate training.
- (4) At least two-thirds of the training must be given by a person—
- (a) eligible for appointment as a statutory auditor, or
  - (b) eligible for a corresponding appointment as an auditor under the law of [<sup>F1</sup>an EEA State ], or part of [<sup>F1</sup>an EEA State]<sup>F2</sup>....
- [<sup>F3</sup>(5) For the purpose of sub-paragraph (4), Gibraltar is to be treated as if it were an EEA State.]

---

*Changes to legislation:* There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Companies Act 2006. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Sch. 11 para. 9(4)(b) substituted (6.4.2008) by [The Statutory Auditors and Third Country Auditors Regulations 2007 \(S.I. 2007/3494\)](#), [reg. 44](#)
- F2** Words in Sch. 11 para. 9(4)(b) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Statutory Auditors and Third Country Auditors \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/177\)](#), [regs. 2, 34\(a\)](#); 2020 c. 1, [Sch. 5 para. 1\(1\)](#)
- F3** Sch. 11 para. 9(5) inserted (31.12.2020) by [The Statutory Auditors and Third Country Auditors \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/177\)](#), [regs. 2, 34\(b\)](#); 2020 c. 1, [Sch. 5 para. 1\(1\)](#)

### *Supplementary provision with respect to a sufficient period of professional experience*

- 10 (1) Periods of theoretical instruction in the fields of finance, law and accountancy may be deducted from the required period of professional experience, provided the instruction—
- (a) lasted at least one year, and
  - (b) is attested by an examination recognised by the Secretary of State for the purposes of this paragraph;
- but the period of professional experience may not be so reduced by more than four years.
- (2) The period of professional experience together with the practical training required in the case of persons satisfying the requirement in paragraph 7 by virtue of having a sufficient period of professional experience must not be shorter than the course of theoretical instruction referred to in that paragraph and the practical training required in the case of persons satisfying the requirement of that paragraph by virtue of having completed such a course.

### *The body offering the qualification*

- 11 (1) The body offering the qualification must have—
- (a) rules and arrangements adequate to ensure compliance with the requirements of paragraphs 6 to 10, and
  - (b) adequate arrangements for the effective monitoring of its continued compliance with those requirements.
- (2) The arrangements must include arrangements for monitoring—
- (a) the standard of the body's examinations, and
  - (b) the adequacy of the practical training given by the persons approved by it for that purpose.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Companies Act 2006. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

- Act amendment to earlier affecting provision S.I. 1989/638, Sch. 4 by [S.I. 2024/410 Sch. 2 para. 1](#)
- Act amendment to earlier affecting provision S.I. 2008/373 reg. 11(1) by [S.I. 2013/1971 reg. 9\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Amending Regulations revoked (1.10.2013) without ever being in force by S.I. 2013/2224, reg. 2)
- Act amendment to earlier affecting provision S.I. 2008/373 reg. 3(4) by [S.I. 2013/1971 reg. 4](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Amending Regulations revoked (1.10.2013) without ever being in force by S.I. 2013/2224, reg. 2)

**Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):**

- s. 479A(2)(c)(zi) inserted by [S.I. 2019/177 reg. 4\(b\)\(i\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 4 substituted by regs. 4, 4A immediately before IP completion day by S.I. 2019/1392, regs. 1(2), 4)
- s. 479B(a)(iii) amendment to earlier affecting provision S.I.2008/1991 reg.34 by [S.R. 2024/78 reg. 31\(4\)](#)
- s. 479B(a)(iii) amendment to earlier affecting provision S.I.2008/1991 reg.34A by [S.R. 2024/78 reg. 31\(5\)](#)
- s. 1087A-1807C applied by S.I. 2009/2436, Sch. 1 para. 20(1)(ca) (as substituted) by [S.I. 2024/410 Sch. 2 para. 5\(d\)\(ii\)](#)
- Sch. 10 para. 6(2D) inserted by [S.I. 2019/177 reg. 28\(e\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 28(e) omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/523, regs. 1(2), 14(e)(iv))
- Sch. 10 para. 7(2A) inserted by [S.I. 2019/177 reg. 29\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 29 substituted immediately before IP completion day by S.I. 2020/523, regs. 1(2), 14(f))