

Recognition and Equivalency of Qualifications



What is Recognition?

What is Equivalency?

"A coherent system of post-secondary or tertiary education and training which assures excellence and integrity to all its stakeholders."

The Barbados Accreditation Council Act, 2004-11 stipulates that the **Barbados Accreditation Council** is responsible to “*advise on the recognition of foreign based institutions and their awards.*”

In this role, the Council:

1. provides authoritative and accurate information about local and foreign-based post-secondary or tertiary education, educational providers and programmes of study; and
2. gives advice or information about recognition matters and equivalency of qualifications locally.

What is Recognition?

Recognition is the formal acknowledgement by a competent authority of the appropriateness of a local and foreign-based qualification to access education and/or employment in the receiving country.

There is a need in Barbados for the:

1. **Recognition** of programmes of study and qualifications attained overseas by citizens of Barbados;
2. **Recognition** of qualifications attained by non-nationals;
3. **Recognition** of programmes of study and qualifications offered by foreign-based institutions operating in Barbados; and
4. **Recognition** of programmes of study pursued by nationals and non-nationals overseas.

Post-secondary or tertiary education and educational providers should be recognized/accredited within the country of origin.

What is Equivalency?

An equivalency is a determination by a competent authority that a particular programme of study or course has attained a comparable recognized standard.

The purposes of determining equivalencies include facilitating:

1. articulation arrangements between educational providers, and other issues related to the transfer of students to other educational institutions; and
2. entry of graduates of the programmes into the workplace.

Documentation required for Recognition and Equivalency:

- a. Application form (*completed, signed and legible*)
- b. Originals, and copies to be certified, of credentials and qualifications
- c. Certified translation of the credential/qualification in English (*if the original document is not in English*)
- d. Official academic transcript(s) to be sent directly to the **Barbados Accreditation Council** by the educational provider(s) attended
- e. Documentation of courses/programmes, for example, curriculum, course description, syllabus, and hours of study/credits.
- f. All other relevant documents attesting the path of education
- g. Documentation of change of name, for example, marriage certificate or deed poll, if your name has changed since the documents were issued



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