

3.2 Criteria for Equivalence of Qualifications

Curtin uses the criteria as prescribed by the [Australian Qualifications Framework](#) to assess and determine Equivalence of Qualifications. Staff must meet all the required criteria for the course of study in which they are teaching or supervising, but this may not necessarily be to the same degree of depth for all criteria. In assessing an application, the following will be taken into consideration:

- The current academic qualifications of the staff member;
- The full range of professional experience and teaching experience of the staff member, for example, professional development seminars, public lectures, scholarship and professional practice; and
- The prescribed criteria for assessing professional equivalence at the required level.

3.3 Type of evidence

Table 2 provides examples of the types of evidence which could be provided to address the criteria for each AQF level. The types of evidence are broad enough to enable learning outcomes to be tailored to each field and level of education being considered. Evidence of good teaching (e.g. teaching scores, peer review of educational practice) should be used where applicable and appropriate.

Table 2: AQF qualification levels and criteria with suggested types of evidence

Source: Australian Qualifications Framework, Second Edition January 2013 available at: <https://www.aqf.edu.au/>

Award Type and Level	AQF Level and Criteria Required (All must be met but depth may vary)	Types of Evidence
Associate Degree AQF level 6 Minimum Requirement: Bachelor qualification (AQF Level 7)	Required Equivalence: Bachelor Level (AQF Level 7) Knowledge: Broad and coherent theoretical and technical knowledge with depth in one or more disciplines or areas of practice. Skills: Well-developed cognitive, technical and communication skills to select and apply methods and technologies to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse and evaluate information to complete a range of activities; • Analyse, generate and transmit solutions to unpredictable and sometimes complex problems; and • Transmit knowledge, skills and ideas to others. Application: Apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy, well-developed judgement and responsibility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In contexts that require self-directed work and learning; and • Within broad parameters to provide specialist advice and functions. Summary: Broad and coherent knowledge and skills for professional work and/or further learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership roles within a work- based context and the wider community; • Professional development programs undertaken; • Experience in projects, research or collaborative work in employment or with Curtin; • Exhibitions of creative work; • Extra-curricular professional activities; • Technical achievement; • Teaching experience; and/or • Publications, presentations related to their profession or discipline area.

Award Type and Level	AQF Level and Criteria Required (All must be met but depth may vary)	Types of Evidence
Bachelor AQF Level 7 Minimum Requirement: Bachelor Honours, Graduate Certificate, or Graduate Diploma qualification (AQF Level 8)	Required Equivalence: Bachelor Honours, Graduate Certificate, or Graduate Diploma (AQF Level 8) Knowledge: advanced theoretical and technical knowledge in one or more disciplines or areas of practice. Skills: advanced cognitive, technical and communication skills to select and apply methods and technologies to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse critically, evaluate and transform information to complete a range of activities; Analyse, generate and transmit solutions to complex problems; and Transmit knowledge, skills and ideas to others. Application: Apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy, well-developed judgement, adaptability and responsibility as a practitioner or learner. Summary: Advanced knowledge and skills for professional or highly skilled work and/or further learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management and leadership roles within a work-based context and the wider community; Professional development programs undertaken; Outputs from projects, research or collaborative work in employment or with Curtin that evidences planning, the development and application of a research methodology; Exhibitions of creative work; Extra-curricular professional activities; Technical achievement; Teaching experience; and/or Publications, presentations related to their profession or discipline area.
Bachelor Honours; Graduate Certificate; Graduate Diploma AQF Level 8 Minimum Requirement: Masters qualification (AQF Level 9)	Required Equivalence: Masters Degree (AQF Level 9) Knowledge: advanced and integrated understanding of a complex body of knowledge in one or more disciplines or areas of practice. Skills: Expert, specialised cognitive and technical skills in a body of knowledge or practice to independently: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse critically, reflect on and synthesise complex information, problems, concepts and theories; Research and apply established theories to a body of knowledge or practice; and Interpret and transmit knowledge, skills and ideas to specialist and non-specialist audiences. Application: Apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy, expert judgement, adaptability and responsibility as a practitioner or learner. Summary: Specialised knowledge and skills for research, and/or professional practice and/or further learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional qualifications, extensive professional development and training; Seniority of work-based professional practice; Evidence of standing in their profession or discipline; Evidence of design, creative or technical achievement; Evidence of the scope and nature of work-based projects and/or research undertaken, and the output from these; and/or Publication record.

Award Type and Level	AQF Level and Criteria Required (All must be met but depth may vary)	Types Evidence
Masters AQF Level 9 Minimum Requirement: Doctoral qualification (AQF Level 10)	Required Equivalence: Doctoral Degree (AQF Level 10) Knowledge: Systematic and critical understanding of a substantial and complex body of knowledge at the frontier of a discipline or area of professional practice. Skills: Expert, specialised cognitive, technical and research skills in a discipline area to independently and systematically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in critical reflection, synthesis and evaluation; Develop, adapt and implement research methodologies to extend and redefine existing knowledge or professional practice; Disseminate and promote new insights to peers and the community; and Generate original knowledge and understanding to make a substantial contribution to a discipline or area of professional practice. Application: Apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy, authoritative judgement, adaptability and responsibility as an expert and leading practitioner or scholar. Summary: Systematic and critical understanding of a complex field of learning and specialised research skills for the advancement of learning and/or for professional practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional qualifications, extensive professional development and training; Evidence of leadership and standing in their profession or discipline; Evidence of sustained design, creative or technical achievement; Evidence of independent, sustained practice-based research and innovation; Evidence of the scope and nature of work-based projects and/or research undertaken, with outputs demonstrating a contribution to the body of knowledge; and/or Publication record, particularly refereed publications.
Doctoral Degree AQF Level 10 Minimum Requirement: Doctoral qualification (AQF Level 10)	Required Equivalence: Doctoral Degree (AQF Level 10)	Please refer to the Supervision of Higher Degree by Research (HDR) Students Procedures for requirements

Please note: This information is an excerpt from the document AQF Criteria and Evidence. The full version of this document can be obtained by contacting curtincareers@curtin.edu.au