

Higher National awards

Until 1 September 1999 the academic requirement for IEng registration was an accredited Higher National Certificate (HNC) or Higher National Diploma (HND). From that date, the requirement was raised to Bachelor degree level. This means that HNC/HND qualifications started in September 1999 or later do not fully satisfy the IEng registration requirement, with the exception of a small number of courses whose accreditation extends beyond this date. However, these only satisfy the IEng education requirement where further learning is not required for the intake year. See the rules below to determine whether an HNC/HND started before September 1999 satisfies this requirement. Changes to national qualification frameworks in 2010 resulted in the HNC being positioned as a lower level qualification than the HND. Consequently the HNC is no longer a potential exemplifying qualification for IEng registration. This change only affects individuals beginning HNC qualifications from 1 September 2010. The position of HNDs remains the same.

IEng Registration

Holders of Higher National qualifications seeking IEng registration should contact an Engineering Council licensed professional engineering institution that is discipline-appropriate to their area of professional practice. The relevant institution will assess academic qualifications and experience for registration and will provide guidance and advice where further learning is required.

Since the introduction of UK-SPEC in 2004 until 2027 programmes leading to the award of an HNC or HND have generally not been accredited by Engineering Council licensed professional engineering institutions and the qualifications have been approved on a national basis.

UK-SPEC states that Higher National Diplomas (HNDs) plus appropriate further learning to degree level provide individuals with the exemplifying knowledge and understanding for registration as an Incorporated Engineer. Since 2011 HNDs can be treated as recognised without needing to be approved or accredited by Engineering Council Licensed Members. Following a review by the Engineering Council's Registration Standards Committee, all HNDs will, from 2027, be required to be assessed against either AAQA (Approval and Accreditation of Qualifications and Apprenticeships) or AHEP (Accreditation of Higher Education Programmes) in order to be included on the Engineering Council's course search database.

To allow sufficient time for those organisations responsible for the delivery of HNDs to promote this change, the implementation of this decision will commence from September 2027 with the option to backdate such approval or accreditation.

Sydney Accord

Holders of Higher National awards seeking recognition of their qualifications under the Sydney Accord for the purposes of migration whose qualifications do not appear on our recognised course list should contact international@engc.org.uk for more information.

Rules applicable for IEng registration and Sydney Accord recognition

The following rules apply:

- EdExcel/BTEC/TEC/SCOTVEC/SCOTEC Engineering HD/HNDs started before September 1999 satisfy the academic requirements for IEng registration
- BTEC/TEC HC/HNC courses in a specified engineering discipline started before September 1987 satisfy the academic requirements for IEng registration.
- Scottish HC/HNC courses in a specified engineering discipline started before September 1989 satisfy the academic requirements for IEng registration.
- The academic requirement for BTEC/TEC/EdExcel HNC courses started between September 1987 and September 1999 is a minimum of 8.0 H units (or level IV and V), including 1.0 H units project, 1.0 N/H or H units computing, and 1.0 Units N/H level (level III) mathematics. Where the candidate completed an ONC prior to the HNC, the mathematics requirement may have been satisfied in an

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ONC. The same applies to the computing requirement, and may be comprised of different units, e.g. computing for engineering, introduction to robotics, CAD, etc.

The academic requirement for SCOTVEC/SCOTEC/SQA HNC courses started between September 1989 and September 1999 is a minimum of 12.0 HN credits, including 1.5 HN credits Project, 1.5 NC credits mathematics at the level of M2, and 1.5 NC credits computing. The computing requirement may be comprised of different units, e.g. computing for engineering, introduction to robotics, CAD, etc.

Where a Higher National qualification does not satisfy the profile, the missing units required to satisfy the profile may be taken. An HND started after September 1999 would require further learning to ordinary bachelor degree level to be completed. An HNC started after September 1999 and before 1 September 2010 would require further learning to ordinary bachelor degree level to be completed.