

28 July 2025



## Official Information Act Request

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request of 1 July 2025, under the Official Information Act 1982, for the following information:

*For the previous five years calendar years (2020 – 2024):*

1. *The number of applicants who have applied to NZQA for an International Qualification Assessment (IQA) where the qualification was a tertiary engineering degree.*
2. *Of those applicants, the number whose engineering degree was assessed at:*
  - NZQF Level 7
  - NZQF Level 8
  - NZQF Level 9
3. *The number of applicants whose engineering degree was not recognised at Level 7 or above, and a summary of the reasons for these outcomes (e.g. incomplete documentation, non-comparable qualification, institution not recognised, etc.).*
4. *For the successful applicants at NZQF Levels 7, 8, and 9, a breakdown of the number of applications by country of residence at the time of application.*

*If reasonably practicable, please exclude qualifications that are not accredited under the Washington Accord or Sydney Accord.*

*If any part of the request cannot be fulfilled, I would appreciate if the remainder can still be provided, and I am happy to receive the data in spreadsheet or tabular format.*

I attach copies of the following information covered by your request.

1. The number of IQA applications for tertiary qualifications containing “Engineer\$” in the qualification title during the requested period.
2. Of those applications, the number of qualifications recognised as on the NZQCF at:
  - NZQCF Level 7 and **Bachelor’s degree at Level 7**
  - NZQCF Level 8 and **Bachelor honours degree at Level 8**
  - NZQCF Level 9 and **Master’s degree at Level 9**
3. The number of IQA applications, where the qualifications were not recognised at Level 7 or above on the NZQCF and the summary of these reasons.
4. A breakdown of the number of applications with qualifications recognised at Levels 7, 8, and 9 on the NZQCF by reported physical country at the time of application.

When reviewing the requested data, please consider that:

- Our International Qualifications Assessments (IQA) determine if an overseas qualification can be recognised in New Zealand and compare the nominated qualification to a level and qualification type on the New Zealand Qualifications and Credentials Framework (NZQCF). Our recognition outcomes **do not** grant equivalence to a specific degree (i.e. Bachelor of

Engineering).

- These evaluations are inexorably linked to the context of the individual qualification including the circumstances of the applicant's education pathway, our evaluation practices/resources, the available information and when the application was submitted.
- We do not track whether a qualification is a Sydney or Washington Accord degree as it is not relevant for our IQA purposes.
- NZQA can only determine the level and qualification type submitted for an IQA after an evaluation is completed. We have provided this information on that basis.

Our response to your request may be published on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed before publication.

If you require further assistance or believe we have misinterpreted your request, please contact Elizabeth Templeton in the Office of the Chief Executive, email [elizabeth.templeton@nzqa.govt.nz](mailto:elizabeth.templeton@nzqa.govt.nz) or telephone (04) 463 3339.

You have the right to seek an investigation or review by the Ombudsman of this decision under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982. Details of how to make a complaint can be found at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz). You can also telephone 0800 802 502 or write to the Ombudsman at PO Box 10152, Wellington, 6143.

Nāku nā



Dr Grant Klinkum  
Pouwhakahaere/Chief Executive

1. NZQA received 9,029 IQA applications for tertiary qualifications containing “Engineer\$” in the qualification title during the requested period.
2. Of these applications;
  - o 6,078 qualifications were recognised as NZQCF Level 7 with **6,023** recognised as a **Bachelor’s degree at Level 7** on the NZQCF.
  - o 150 qualifications were recognised as NZQCF Level 8 with **113** recognised as a **Bachelor honours degree at Level 8** on the NZQCF.
  - o 1,189 Qualifications were recognised as NZQCF Level 9 with **1,013** recognised as a **Master’s degree at Level 9** on the NZQCF
  - o 1,530 qualifications were not recognised as qualifications at Level 7 or above on the NZQCF.
  - o 82 recognised qualifications did not meet the criteria of this request.
3. For the 1,530 qualifications not recognised at Level 7 or above on the NZQCF, the reasons included:
  - o the evaluation established the qualification was below Level 7 on the NZQCF
  - o the application contained incomplete documentation
  - o the awarding organisation/programme of study lacked national recognition in the country of award
  - o the awarding organisation’s quality assurance framework/mechanisms were insufficient for a comparable outcome on the NZQCF
  - o academic documents could not be verified as a genuinely awarded
4. We have interpreted “successful applicants” as qualifications recognised on the NZQCF. This table contains the breakdown of the number of qualifications recognised at Levels 7, 8, and 9 on the NZQCF. The table based on the self-reported physical address of the IQA applicant. This is not equivalent to the country of award for the qualification submitted with their application.

Physical: Country

Afghanistan	1
Algeria	1
Argentina	22
Armenia	2
Australia	49
Austria	1
Azerbaijan	1
Bahrain	29
Bangladesh	11
Belarus	1
Belgium	1
Botswana	5
Brazil	35
Cambodia	4
Cameroon	1
Canada	25
Chile	36
China	352

Colombia	14
Cook Islands	1
Czechia	1
Denmark	3
Ecuador	2
Egypt	18
El Salvador	1
Estonia	3
Fiji	79
Finland	2
France	12
Georgia	2
Germany	28
Ghana	2
Guatemala	1
Honduras	1
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China	41
Hungary	7
India	419
Indonesia	7
Iran	49
Iraq	5
Ireland	2
Israel	3
Italy	5
Japan	10
Jordan	12
Kazakhstan	7
Korea (Republic of)	13
Kuwait	37
Lebanon	13
Macau Special Administrative Region, China	1
Macedonia	4
Malaysia	38
Mauritania	1
Mauritius	5
Mexico	6
Moldova	3
Myanmar	3
Namibia	3
Nepal	6
Netherlands	5
New Caledonia	1
New Zealand	3928
Nigeria	21
Norway	2
Oman	17
Pakistan	123
Palau	1
Palestine	1

Papua New Guinea	1
Peru	4
Philippines	289
Poland	8
Portugal	1
Qatar	100
Romania	3
Russia	60
Samoa	2
Saudi Arabia	156
Serbia	3
Singapore	298
Slovakia	5
Solomon Islands	1
South Africa	126
Spain	7
Sri Lanka	171
St Helena	1
Sudan	3
Sweden	1
Switzerland	8
Taiwan	5
Tanzania	1
Thailand	14
Trinidad and Tobago	3
Tunisia	1
Turkey	12
Ukraine	1
United Arab Emirates	379
United Kingdom	48
United States of America	72
Uruguay	2
Uzbekistan	1
Vanuatu	1
Viet Nam	25
Yemen	1
Zambia	2
Zimbabwe	49