

10 February 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request of 8 January 2025, under the Official Information Act 1982, for the following information:

- The overseas psychiatry qualifications that have been assessed by NZQA in the past five years:*
 - The qualification names.*
 - The countries of origin for these qualifications.*
- The outcomes of these assessments:*
 - Whether the qualifications were deemed to be equivalent to New Zealand standards.*
 - The reasons for these decisions (both for acceptance and rejection).*
- Any criteria or guidelines NZQA uses to assess the comparability of psychiatry qualifications from overseas.*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982.

I include the following responses to each of your questions:

The overseas psychiatry qualifications that have been assessed by NZQA in the past five years:

- The qualification names.**
- The countries of origin for these qualifications.**

There have been eight overseas psychiatry qualifications that have been assessed by NZQA in the past five years. The information in the table below was extracted from NZQA's overseas qualification recognition application management system for the period 2020 to 2024, using the term 'psychiatry' in the information search¹:

Qualification Name	Major/ Specialisation	Awarding Country	Recognition Outcome
Master M.SC. Degree in Neurology and Psychiatry Diseases		Egypt	Master's degree at Level 9
Master of Science in War and Psychiatry		United Kingdom	Master's degree at Level 9

¹ A qualification subject area is not a compulsory field in the application management system. We cannot confirm if additional overseas psychiatry qualifications have been evaluated unless the applicant specifies the subject in the qualification title.

Master Degree in Neurology and Psychiatry		Egypt	Master's degree at Level 9
The Candidate of Medical Sciences	Psychiatry	Russia	Doctoral degree at Level 10
Master of Social Work	Medical and Psychiatry	India	Master's degree at Level 9
Master of Social Work	Medical and Psychiatry	India	Master's degree at Level 9
Master of Science	Neurology and Psychiatry	Egypt	Master's degree at Level 9
Master of Social Work	Medical and Psychiatry	India	Master's degree at Level 9

The outcomes of these assessments:

- **Whether the qualifications were deemed to be equivalent to New Zealand standards.**
- **The reasons for these decisions (both for acceptance and rejection).**

The table above includes the recognition outcome for each of the eight qualifications.

An international qualification assessment (IQA) compares an overseas qualification to a level and generic qualification type (e.g. Bachelor's degree, Master's degree) on the New Zealand Qualifications and Credentials Framework (NZQCF).

An IQA does *not* compare an overseas qualification to New Zealand standards, unless there is a specific arrangement with the relevant professional registration body, e.g. the Teaching Council.

NZQA's evaluation practice is based on the UNESCO qualifications recognition convention guidance. This includes but is not limited to whether the qualification is recognised nationally in the country of award or country of delivery, and whether it has been approved and accredited by the relevant authorities.

NZQA can only evaluate an individual's qualification, not their competency to practice in a specific profession.

Any criteria or guidelines NZQA uses to assess the comparability of psychiatry qualifications from overseas.

We do not have specific criteria or guidelines for the evaluation of overseas psychiatry qualifications.

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 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. 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