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# Handout

## Translating your International Qualifications into UK Equivalencies

Many graduate employers ask for a particular level of pass in an undergraduate **degree** (for example 2:1). This means that if you are an international student on a postgraduate course at the University of Sheffield, and studied for your first degree outside the UK, you could be asked to translate your undergraduate degree level qualification into the UK equivalent.

Some employers also ask for **UCAS points** (for example 300 UCAS points). These relate to the A-levels and other qualifications that UK students take at school. So, international students could also be asked to translate their pre-degree level qualifications into UK equivalents.

**It is not easy to get exact equivalencies, but the following general strategies may be of use:-**

- Email or telephone the employer giving full details of your qualifications and grades and ask for their advice about what you should put on their application form
- Check with your University Department office if they translated your qualifications into UK equivalents when you applied
- If they aren't able to give you this information then ask them what the entry requirements are for your course in terms of level of degree pass or UCAS points. Then explain to the employer that you were accepted onto a course that requires this level of pass

**In regard to degree level equivalencies:-**

- The Training and Development Agency for Schools (TDA) commissioned a grade comparison exercise, carried out by UK NARIC, of international degrees compared to British Bachelor (honours) degree standards (to help them determine postgraduate bursary eligibility). The table does not have data for all countries, but it does provide a lot of very useful information. Go to [www.tda.gov.uk](http://www.tda.gov.uk) and put 'Funding for postgraduate teacher training' in the search box. On this page the Equivalency Table is listed in the text under Training Bursaries. The complete link is:-  
[http://www.tda.gov.uk/get-into-teaching/funding/training-in-england/~/\\_media/resources/training-provider/funding-allocations/overseas\\_grade\\_comparison.pdf](http://www.tda.gov.uk/get-into-teaching/funding/training-in-england/~/_media/resources/training-provider/funding-allocations/overseas_grade_comparison.pdf)
- On the KPMG website (a major Financial Services firm) there is a grid that gives their view of the equivalencies to a 2:1 for several countries. Go to [www.kpmgcareers.co.uk](http://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk) > Graduates > How to apply > International students The complete link is -  
[http://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/Graduates/HowtoApply--InternationalStudents\\_\(10208\).aspx?pg=10208](http://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/Graduates/HowtoApply--InternationalStudents_(10208).aspx?pg=10208)

**In regard to UCAS points equivalencies**

- On the KPMG website, there is also a helpful 'International Academic Requirements Calculator' which will allow you to translate international qualifications into UCAS points. Go to [www.kpmgcareers.co.uk](http://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk) > Graduates > FAQ's > Question 3(ii). The complete link is [http://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/Graduates/HowtoApply--InternationalRequirementsCalculator\\_\(10209\).aspx?pg=10209](http://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/Graduates/HowtoApply--InternationalRequirementsCalculator_(10209).aspx?pg=10209)
- Deloitte (another major Financial Services firm) also have a useful International Requirements Grid on their website. Go to [www.deloitte.com](http://www.deloitte.com) > Graduate homepage > FAQs > Work permits/academic requirements > Education outside the UK. The complete link is -  
[http://careers.deloitte.com/united-kingdom/students/csc\\_general.aspx?CountryContentID=12928](http://careers.deloitte.com/united-kingdom/students/csc_general.aspx?CountryContentID=12928)

**Please note that the KPMG and Deloitte grids/calculators have been developed for their individual company's needs. If you are applying to other organisations you should only use them as a guide.**