

10 December 2007

Our ref: SGA/Access/05

To: SQA Co-ordinator

**For the attention of centre staff responsible for Scottish Group Awards at Access 2 and 3**

Action by Recipient
Response required
Note and pass on
None — update/information only

Contact Name: Sandy Riddell at Glasgow  
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Dear Colleague,

**SCOTTISH GROUP AWARDS ACCESS 2 AND 3 — INTERIM CHANGES**

I am writing to let you know about some changes we are making to the Scottish Group Award (SGA) frameworks at Access 2 and 3.

Scottish Group Awards at all levels will be looked at soon as part of the SQA Portfolio Review. The outcomes of this review may lead to changes in the title, size and design of Group Awards over the next few years, however, as an interim measure it has been decided that SGAs at Access 2 and 3 levels should be amended now in two ways:

- ◆ **The requirement for ‘coherent groupings’ of Units within the Single, Double and Triple SGAs at Access 2 and 3 has been removed.**
- ◆ **The Core Skill requirement for Access 2 SGAs has been reduced from five Core Skills at Access 2 level to three Core Skills at Access 2 level (the Core Skill requirement for Access 3 SGAs will remain unchanged).**

Although ‘coherent groupings’ have been removed as a requirement from the framework for SGAs at Access 2 and 3, candidates should still be given guidance on which Units to select as part of the Group Award. Guidance should encourage the selection of coherent groups of Units according to the needs and abilities of candidates.

Similarly, although the Core Skills profile required for SGAs at Access 2 will be reduced to a minimum of three Core Skills, centres should still offer their candidates guidance on the selection of suitable Units.

For SGAs at Access 3, the need for all five Core Skills at Access 2 is not quite as problematic as it is for SGAs at Access 2 and therefore no interim amendments are being made in relation to the Core Skills requirements at Access 3 level.

The revised frameworks for Access 2 and 3 SGAs are provided under the Group Awards heading in the Access section of the SQA website [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk). Please note that these frameworks will be valid for entries received after 31 July 2005 and will remain valid until at least July 2007.

The new codes are as follows:

**Scottish Group Awards Access 2**

G7V6 08 Scottish Group Award: Single  
G7V7 08 Scottish Group Award: Double  
G7V8 08 Scottish Group Award: Triple

**Scottish Group Awards Access 3**

G7V6 09 Scottish Group Award: Single  
G7V7 09 Scottish Group Award: Double  
G7V8 09 Scottish Group Award: Triple

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandy Riddell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Sandy Riddell  
Project Manager  
NQPD