



To whom it may concern:

Advanced Certificate TESOL - now Level 5 equivalent of the National Qualifications Framework is denoted as the Associateship of Educational Studies TESOL.

The College of Teachers Advanced Certificate was accredited at equivalence Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF). Level 4 (NQF) is regarded as comparable, in terms of assessment standards, to the first year of an undergraduate degree offered in the UK.

Distance learning and online learning TESOL programmes were assessed at Level 5 (NQF) and all face-to-face and 'hybrid' courses were assessed at Level 4 (NQF) equivalent to match those offered by other awarding bodies. Both these programmes were considered to be TCOT TESOL Level One courses and were only distinguished by the face-to-face Teaching Practice element.

The Diploma and Advanced Diploma TESOL offered at TCOT TESOL Level TWO remains equivalent Level 6 (NQF) in line with its exact counterparts. With the Diploma TESOL being phased out the Advanced Diploma in Teaching TESOL for candidates who have completed the required observed teaching practice at this level will have the designation 'with Teaching Practice' highlighted on their certificate and transcripts.

From 30 July 2010 the above changes will be reflected in all certification and all publications. Former candidates who have lost their Level 4 certificates will have to follow the usual procedures in applying for a replacement, and this will state Level 4 as this was the original level of their certificate. All certificates for candidates whose courses ended on or after 30 July 2010 will receive Level 5 certificates.

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