

**Subject: Circular Number: 2007/ 19**  
**Date of Issue: 18 June 2007**

**Subject:**

**QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS IN  
INSTITUTIONS OF FURTHER AND  
HIGHER EDUCATION- Amendment to Circular 2006/21**

**Audience:**

- Governing Bodies and Principals of Institutions of Further and Higher Education

**Summary of Contents:**

This Circular amends the ANNEX to Circular 2006/21 as follows:-

- Age requirement removed from Para 1.1 in line with new legislation.
- Footnote added to Schedule B in relation to HNCs awarded by the Scottish Qualifications Authority.
- New Schedule D inserted relating to qualifications in Construction.
- New Schedule E inserted relating to teaching Essential Skills

**Enquiries:**

Any enquires about the contents of this Circular should be addressed to:-

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**Status of Contents:**  
Information /Advice

**Related Documents:**

[Circular 2006/21](#)

**Superseded Documents:**

**DE Website:**

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## **Amendment to Circular 2006/21 -**

### **QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS IN INSTITUTIONS OF FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION**

1. Para 1.1 of the Annex to the above Circular should be amended to read:-

1.1 New teachers must have attained the standard of general education listed in paragraph 2 below **plus** 3 years (full-time or equivalent) **relevant** industrial, professional or business experience, unless the qualifications or course of study successfully completed is listed in Schedule A.

2. Schedule B of the Annex to the above Circular should be amended to read :-

B.1 A qualification in the specialist vocational area in which the applicant is to teach and at a level which is, at least, level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework (revised September 2004) and/or deemed by the Department to be equivalent to a Higher National Certificate or Foundation Degree.

**N.B.** HNCs awarded by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) are deemed to be equivalent to NQF level 4 and do not therefore meet the standard required for teaching in FE colleges in Northern Ireland.

3. The following new Schedules are to be added to the Annex of the Circular:-

#### ***Schedule D: Construction and Built Environment***

D.1 Where a Governing Body is unable to secure the services of a lecturer with a minimum qualification at HNC/D level, or equivalent, in the vocational area of Construction and the Built Environment, it may, **subject to D.2 and up to 31st August 2008**, appoint a person with Advanced Craft Certificate /NVQ Level 3 in the relevant vocational area.

D.2 Any person so appointed must achieve a qualification at HNC/D level or equivalent in this vocational area, within three years of appointment or by 31st August 2011, whichever is the earlier.

### ***Schedule E: Essential Skills***

- E.1 Where a Governing Body employs or intends to employ a lecturer to teach Essential Skills, reference should be made to the current Essential Skills Tutor Education Circular (ES02/04) issued by the Department for Learning and Employment.