

Partnership Classification and Requirements Schedule

1 Purpose

To classify educational partnerships and identify the minimum requirements that apply to each partnership category.

2 Scope

This Schedule must be read in conjunction with the Educational Partnerships Procedure and is subordinate to it.

3 Schedule

This Schedule classifies partnership types using a risk tier model. The tier determines the depth of due diligence, approval pathway, readiness assessment, monitoring and reporting required.

Table 1: Partnership Risk Tiers

Tier	Partnership types	Description	Default governance intensity
Tier 1: Low Risk	Articulation and Credit Transfer	Partner primarily provides prior learning, qualification pathway or sequential study access that leads to Admission and/or Credit. The University does not rely on the partner to deliver the University's teaching.	Streamlined feasibility check, academic assessment and annual reporting.
Tier 2: Medium Risk	Coursework Dual Awards; International Study Hubs; Collaborative Arrangements; Packaged Offers	Students engage with a coordinated or supported partnership model. Some shared governance, Credit recognition, support services or partner	Detailed feasibility, partner capability assessment, business and operational assessment as relevant, annual partnership

		infrastructure may be involved.	performance reporting.
Tier 3: High Risk	Coursework Joint Awards; Third Party Education Arrangements; Transnational Education and Offshore Delivery Arrangements	Partner involvement materially affects delivery, academic governance, offshore operations, support services, regulatory compliance or the University's ability to meet <i>Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021</i> (HESF) obligations.	Enhanced due diligence, full readiness assessment, business case, formal governance, executive approval and regulatory notification where required.

Table 2: Minimum Requirements by Partnership Category

Category	Default tier	Minimum additional requirements
Articulation and Credit Transfer	Tier 1	Academic assessment of Admission and/or Credit outcomes; partner accreditation evidence; mapped Credit or pathway schedule; agreement or letter of agreement; annual enrolment and Student outcomes review. The University is responsible for assessing Admission and Credit outcomes but is not responsible for curriculum design or delivery undertaken by the partner institution. AQF benchmark Credit guidance should be maintained in the Educational Partnerships Establishment and Operational Guidelines.
Packaged Offers	Tier 2	Admissions pathway confirmation; partner and program status; Student information requirements; English language and visa considerations and Department of Home Affairs (DHA) risk assessment levels for international onshore Packaged Offers; and monitoring of pathway utilisation.
Coursework Dual Awards	Tier 2	Credit recognition, curriculum mapping, Student enrolment model, agreement terms, Student communication, annual review, and program accreditation or change pathway where required.

International Study Hubs	Tier 2	Clear service scope confirming whether teaching is excluded; infrastructure, study space, IT support, library access, assessment support, examination support, Student administrative support, Student communication and regulatory review where offshore. Where an International Study Hub evolves beyond support services into a delivery activity, additional approval, readiness and Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) notification requirements may apply.
Collaborative Arrangements	Tier 2 unless elevated	Clear allocation of each party's responsibilities; partner infrastructure or service assessment; academic quality and Student experience review; Collaborative Double Degrees may be approved under this category where two existing programs are linked through formal recognition of Credit and coordinated progression pathways; pathway to Tier 3 where joint award, third party delivery or offshore delivery risks arise.
Coursework Joint Awards	Tier 3	Program accreditation or change pathway; integrated academic governance; establishment of a cross-institutional working group for program development, accreditation coordination and implementation planning; joint agreement content; Award conferral and exit provisions; Joint Award agreements must define testamur arrangements, award conferral processes and institutional responsibilities for certification; Academic Board approval pathway; TEQSA review where offshore.
Third Party Education Arrangements	Tier 3	Enhanced due diligence; partner capability, service scope, formal contract, HESF authority, delivery arrangements including teaching and support services and administrative functions, quality assurance, Student protection, partner performance monitoring and TEQSA/CRICOS review where relevant.
Transnational Education and Offshore Delivery Arrangements	Tier 3 unless low risk and approved otherwise	Jurisdiction and in-country risk review; regulatory feasibility; technology and support capability; readiness gates; offshore reporting requirements. Detailed TEQSA notification assessment requirements are set out in the

		Governance, Delegations and Regulatory Compliance Schedule.
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4 References

Nil.

5 Schedule Information

Accountable Officer	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students and Education)
Responsible Officer	Dean (Curriculum and Quality)
Policy Type	University Procedure
Policy Suite	Educational Partnerships Policy
Approved Date	
Effective Date	
Review Date	
Relevant Legislation	<u>Australian Qualifications Framework</u> <u>Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000</u> <u>Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021</u> <u>Higher Education Support Act 2003</u> <u>Information Privacy Act 2009</u> <u>National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018</u> <u>Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011</u> <u>Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act 2020</u>
Policy Exceptions	<u>Policy Exceptions Register</u>
Related Policies	
Related Procedures	Educational Partnerships Procedure

Related forms, publications and websites	Australian Qualifications Framework Educational Partnerships Establishment and Operational Guidelines Education Partner Application form – UniSQ service management system TEQSA – Material changes and other notifications TEQSA – Notifications required of providers with authorisation to provide Australian courses offshore Coursework Curriculum Design and Structure Schedule
Definitions	Terms defined in the Definitions Dictionary Admission Articulation Articulation and Credit Transfer Pathways (For Approval) Qualifications pathways with educational partners that set out agreed Admission and/or Credit outcomes for qualifications which are fully or partially completed by Students at the educational partner and that lead towards a UniSQ Award. Award Collaborative Arrangement (For Approval) Arrangements between the University and an educational partner where the parties collaborate to provide an educational activity and each institution is responsible for its respective components. Collaborative Double Degree Course Coursework Program Credit Credit Transfer Dual Award

	International Student International Study Hubs (For Approval) An agreement with a partner institution to provide administrative, learning and student support services to Students studying the University's Programs online in an offshore jurisdiction. Teaching, delivery of the University's Course content or assessment activity is excluded unless separately approved under the relevant partnership category and regulatory requirements. Joint Award Learning Outcomes Packaged Offer (For approval) A Packaged Offer is an Admission offer combining two or more sequential Programs, such as an English language or foundation pathway Course, a vocational qualification followed by an undergraduate degree, or an undergraduate degree followed by a postgraduate degree. Progression into the final principal Program depends on successfully completing the first Program of study. Policy Procedure Student Third Party Education Arrangement (For approval – addition of Education to title) An arrangement made by the University with another party (in Australia or overseas) to deliver some or all of a higher education program that leads to the Award of an Australian regulated higher education qualification. Third Party Provider (For approval – addition of Education within definition) A party with which the University has a Third Party Education Arrangement for the purposes of delivering some or all of a higher education program that leads to the award of an Australian regulated higher education qualification. Transnational Education Arrangement (For Approval)
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	An educational arrangement where Students are located in a country outside Australia and undertake study at the University supported through one or more Transnational Education agreements. University
	Definitions that relate to this schedule only
Keywords	Educational partnerships, partnership agreement, Third Party Education Arrangement, Third Party Provider, Third Party Arrangement, Transnational Education, offshore delivery, International Study Hubs, Coursework Dual Awards, Coursework Joint Awards
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