

Credit for Young People



NOCN brings you Skills Towards Enabling Progression - the Step-UP Qualifications

What is Step-UP?

Step-UP is a suite of qualifications that sits in the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) and has been specifically designed to meet the needs of the 14-19 sector. The qualifications are credit based and therefore can be used to ensure that personalised learning is delivered as 'bite sized'.

How do they benefit providers?

The Step-UP qualifications:

- Provide opportunities for young people to gain recognition for cross-curricular dimensions of their learning
- Provide learners with the flexibility to access learning at different levels (spiky profile)
- Will support schools in the implementation of the Entitlement Framework
- Can attract funding and are allocated performance points
- Can enable "the more challenging" hard to reach 14-19 learners to achieve success
- Can improve retention and progression rates by recognising frequent smaller steps of achievements
- Are approved by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA)

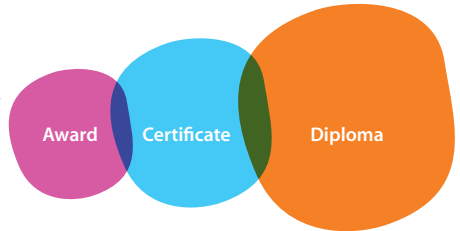
*Information for
learning providers
in Northern Ireland*

Pathways you could create...



What is the size of the qualifications?

The qualifications are currently available as Award, Certificate and Diploma at Entry 3 and Level 1. The qualifications are now being developed at Entry 1, Entry 2, and Level 2.



Rules of Combination and Performance Points

Qualification Title and Qualification Reference Number	Performance Points	Total Credits	Minimum Core Credits	Minimum Credits at Main Qualification Level	Spiky Profile Credits and Level
NOCN Entry Level Step-UP Award 500/3917/9	3.5	3	None	3	NA
NOCN Entry Level Step-UP Certificate 500/3919/2	14	15	3	9	6 at Level 1
NOCN Entry Level Step-UP Diploma 500/3993/3	28	37	6	24	12 at Level 1
NOCN Level 1 Step-UP Award 500/3918/0	12.5	6	None	6	NA
NOCN Level 1 Step-UP Certificate 500/3916/7	50	21	6	15	6 at Entry Level
NOCN Level 1 Step-UP Diploma 500/3830/8	100	39	9	30	12 at Entry Level

The National Open College Network (NOCN) welcomes the new Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF). This reform endorses NOCN's 25 years of experience in the recognition of flexible, bite sized learning to meet the needs of adults and young people.



The **Diversity** of Learning