England, Northern Ireland and Wales

Educational Timeline

- School year: August to June with exam dates in June (alternative external exam dates offered in November or December)
- Primary school is six years followed by five years of secondary school
- After timely completion of initial five years of secondary school, students can extend high school graduation by a maximum of two years by enrolling at the first possible opportunity in the programs listed below and completing in the manner indicated

Group A: Documents That Meet High School Graduation Requirement

Students presenting documents other than those listed below will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Students presenting academic timelines other than the allowable time frames outlined below will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis

1st Graduation Point:

General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE)

-Comparable to US high school graduation only if five or more exam passes in different subjects or equivalent credentials achieved

General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level (GCE O-Level)

-Comparable to US high school graduation only if five or more exam passes in different subjects or equivalent credentials achieved

Level 1/Level 2 Certificate (L1/L2 Certificate)

-Comparable to US high school graduation only if five or more exam passes in different subjects or equivalent credentials achieved

Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) Level 2 Diploma

-Comparable to US high school graduation only if five or more exam passes in different subjects or equivalent credentials achieved

Vocational Certificate of Secondary Education (VCSE)

-Comparable to US high school graduation only if five or more exam passes in different subjects or equivalent credentials achieved

Intermediate General Vocational Qualification (Intermediate GNVQ)

-Comparable to US high school graduation only if five or more exam passes in different subjects or equivalent credentials achieved

Allowable Continuing Secondary Extension:

General Certificate of Education Advanced Subsidiary Level (GCE AS-Level)

-Student must enroll at the first possible opportunity and achieve one exam pass to extend graduation date by one year beyond initial point of graduation or achieve two exam passes in different subjects in addition to one GCE A-Level exam pass to extend graduation date by a maximum of two years beyond initial point of graduation

-Must be accompanied by credential(s) previously earned

General Certificate of Education Advanced Level (GCE A-Level)

-Student must enroll at the first possible opportunity and achieve one exam pass to extend graduation date by one year beyond initial point of graduation or achieve two exam passes in different subjects to extend graduation date by two years beyond initial point of graduation or achieve one exam pass in addition to two GCE AS-Level exam passes in different subjects to extend graduation date by two years beyond initial point of graduation
-Must be accompanied by credential(s) previously earned

Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) Level 3 National Foundation Diploma/National Certificate

-Student must enroll at the first possible opportunity and complete a one-year program to extend graduation date beyond initial point of graduation
-Must be accompanied by credential(s) previously earned

Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) Level 3 National Extended Diploma

-Student must enroll at the first possible opportunity and complete a two-year program to extend graduation date beyond initial point of graduation
-Must be accompanied by credential(s) previously earned

National Vocational Qualification Advanced Level (NVQA)

-Student must enroll at the first possible opportunity and complete a two-year program to extend graduation date beyond initial point of graduation
-Must be accompanied by credential(s) previously earned

Advanced Certificate of Vocational Education (AVCE)

-Student must enroll at the first possible opportunity and complete a two-year program to extend graduation date beyond initial point of graduation
-Must be accompanied by credential(s) previously earned

Cambridge Pre-University Diploma

-Student must enroll at the first possible opportunity and complete a two-year program to extend graduation date beyond initial point of graduation
-Must be accompanied by credential(s) previously earned

Higher Education Diploma

-Enrollment in this program is allowed only after unsuccessful completion of higher education access (through GCE A-Levels or BTECs) and requires age 19 for entrance. This is considered equivalent to a US high school diploma. In the case of receiving this credential, the student's graduation date will be considered the first graduation point for purposes of the competitive experience rule. Should the student not have a first graduation point, age 19 will be used for application of the competitive experience rule.

Group B: Documents That Do Not Meet High School Graduation Requirement

Comparable to less than completion of US high school

School-issued leaving certificates
Completion of Form V (without external examinations)
Foundation/General National Vocational Qualification (Foundation/General NVQA)

Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) National Award
Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) Foundation Diploma in Art and Design
Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) First Certificate
Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) Introductory Diploma
Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) Introductory Certificate
Welsh Baccalaureate Foundation and/or Intermediate Diploma
Pitman Examinations Certificate
Edexcel Foundation Level 1 Certificate
Edexcel Higher Level 2 Certificate
Vocational Certificate of Education (VCE)
National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Foundation Level
Foundation Certificate of Secondary Education (FCSE)

GPA Calculation

Calculate the cumulative high school GPA using all exam grades earned on official exam certificates listed in "Group A" above. In the case that students present multiple documents/certificates from "Group A" use all exam grades from each type of credential in the GPA calculation (e.g. students might take GCSE, GCE AS, GCE A-Levels, and BTEC diplomas, all of which are included in the GPA calculation). Exam results listed on documents other than official exam certificates issued from the examination bodies (or school stamped copies of the official exam certificates) are not used to calculate the GPA. Convert each exam grade listed on the certificates to a US equivalent using the corresponding scale(s) below and convert to quality points. All exam grades are used and weighted with one credit per grade with the exception of short courses where grades are weighted with 0.5 US credits for each grade earned. Double awards (where two grades are given for one course) are given two credits, one for each grade earned.

BTEC grades are each awarded a credit and are assigned a US equivalent for each grade listed on the BTEC diploma itself, not from the Notification of Performance (e.g. a BTEC National Extended Diploma awarded a triple grade of Distinction, Distinction, Merit is awarded three U.S. credits, U.S. grades of an A, A and B, then each grade is converted to US equivalents and assigned quality points).

Only official exam certificates are used for GPA calculations. Provisional results are not used in GPA calculations. Each examination body issues replacement certificates in the case of lost or stolen exam certificates.

Students completing AS-Levels, A-Levels, or other Level 3 credentials in the summer who are seeking eligibility determinations for the fall term (or for students completing these credentials in November/December seeking determination for the Spring or Winter terms), may receive an eligibility determination prior to issuance of examination body's official Statement of Results or Certificates provided they:

-Met two of three initial freshmen eligibility requirements at the initial graduation point; or
-The student's GPA will not fall below the equivalent of US 2.0 no matter the outcome of the ending exams (if GPA is one of the two criteria being used for initial freshmen eligibility)
-The student progressed with the normal academic timeline for continued secondary education outlined in "Group A" AND
-The NAIA Eligibility Center has received a letter from the student's school confirming the student's enrollment status with end date of the program and the total number and level of exams for which the student is registered to sit.

Students may not receive an eligibility determination prior to the release of official Statement of Results or Certificates provided:

- The student only met one initial freshmen eligibility requirement at the initial graduation point; and/or
- Exam results will determine whether the student has met at least two of the three initial freshmen eligibility requirements.

Grading Scale (May not be all inclusive):

GCSE 9-point scale (includes IGCSEs)

Grade	US Grade	Quality Points	
9	A+	4	
7,8	A	4	
5,6	B	3	
4	C	2	
1,2,3	D	1	
U	F	0	

GCSE letter grades (includes IGCSEs)

Grade	US Grade	Quality Points	
A*	A+	4	
A	A	4	
B,C	B	3	
D,E	C	2	
F,G	D	1	lowest passing grade
U	F	0	

GCE O-Level

Grade	US Grade	Quality Points	
A	A	4	
B	B	3	
C	C	2	
D	D	1	
E	D	1	lowest passing grade
F, G, H	F	0	

BTEC, Cambridge Pre-U Diploma and Intermediate GNVQ

Grade	US Grade	Quality Points	
Distinction	A	4	
Merit	B	3	
Pass	C	2	lowest passing grade

GCE AS-Level and A-Level

Grade	US Grade	Quality Points	
A	A	4	
B,C	B	3	
D,E	C	2	lowest passing grade
N,O,U	F	0	

AVCE

Grade	US Grade	Quality Points	
A*	A+	4	
A	A	4	
B	B	3	
C	B	3	
D	C	2	

E	C	2	lowest passing grade
U	F	0	

Class Ranking

Class rank is evaluated based on a letter written and submitted by the headmaster or principal of the institution from which the student graduated. The letter must confirm both the student's final position in the student's secondary school class and the total number of students in the graduating class (e.g. the student is 41st in a total graduating class of 112 students). Students can meet this requirement upon timely completion of five GCSE, VCSE or Intermediate GNVQs. If the student does not meet the class ranking at this time or the school is unable to supply this information, the student can meet the class rank requirement upon their second graduation point (allowable high school extensions are listed above in "Group A"). However, students completing tracked or separate degree programs (e.g. BTEC Level 3) must be ranked against all other students in a given class who completed the same degree program. Class ranking cannot be used to meet initial freshmen requirements for private exam candidates.

Post-Secondary Education

Students will be charged terms of attendance and considered transfer students if they have enrolled as a regular student and attended one or more courses at any of the types of institutions listed below (may not be all inclusive), or any other institution that requires proof of high school graduation as a pre-requisite for admission (subject to review on a case-by-case basis).

University
Teacher training program
Post-secondary programs leading to professional qualifications
BTEC Higher National Diploma or Certificate (Levels 4-8)

Reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the information in this document is accurate, however the NAIA and the NAIA Eligibility Center assume no liability for errors or omissions in the content and information provided. The NAIA and the NAIA Eligibility Center reserve the right to update or change any aspect of this document without notice.