



# How do BTEC Higher Nationals provide professional recognition?

## BTEC Higher Nationals Update

### Professional Body Recognition

Over eighty UK professional bodies recognise BTEC HNDs and HNCs. Each professional body identifies, via the respective BTEC Higher National qualifications, the defined exemption from examinations or other professional body requirements. BTEC HNDs and HNCs have particular resonance with many business and industry professionals and human resource practitioners, as many have themselves undertaken and experienced these qualifications, and thus understand the core values and benefits of them. Edexcel produces a BTEC Higher National Professional Recognition and Progression Directory, which is available online and free from Edexcel Publications (01623 467467).

### National Occupational Standards

Moreover, HNDs and HNCs are based on the relevant National Occupational Standards laid down by the standard-setting bodies, such as the Sector Skills Councils. Many multi-national and UK-based companies appreciate and value BTEC Higher Nationals, stating these as entry requirements within job specifications and in recruitment advertising.

### Recognising the achievement of BTEC Higher National qualifications

BTEC HNDs and HNCs are awarded by Edexcel, and under licence through a number of UK universities and higher education institutions. In addition many BTEC Higher Nationals are delivered in further education colleges and other centres in the UK and over one hundred other countries.

Many centres celebrate the achievements of their students with award ceremonies. There is ceremonial dress for such occasions, which can be hired or purchased (if the event is organised through the college or university). The academic wear for those who have achieved a BTEC HND or HNC is black gown, red hood fully lined with mid-blue, and black hat.

### Top-up to degree programmes

BTEC Higher Nationals are an ideal alternative progression route, allowing students to progress to university in the UK and in other countries. There are many examples of students studying their BTEC Higher National locally before entering the second or even final year of a degree in, for example, the UK, the United States and Australia. In the UK, students graduating from HND/HNC programmes are able to progress to honours degree programmes: the requirements will vary according to the receiving institution.

An HND is normally equivalent to 240 credits and an HNC to 150 credits.

For further information on Edexcel's BTEC Higher Nationals, go to [www.edexcel.com/btechn](http://www.edexcel.com/btechn) or please email [btecmarketing@edexcel.com](mailto:btecmarketing@edexcel.com)