

TrustEd Ireland Application Fees and Annual Charge

This document outlines the costs associated with the initial application to QQI for authorisation to use the TrustEd Ireland quality mark and the annual charge following authorisation.

TrustEd Application Fee:

When applying for authorisation to use the TrustEd Ireland quality mark, ELE and private/independent HE providers are required to pay an application fee. This is in line with Section 61(4) and Section 80(m) of the amended Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) Act 2012. In the case of public HE providers, the application fee is included in the annual Relationship Fee paid to QQI. Applicants will be asked to confirm their intention to apply by completing the Confirmation of Application form. Applicants for whom application fees apply will be invoiced according to the corresponding fee band (please see below) at the opening of the application window. The invoice is accessible in the application portal. Applicants are requested to submit evidence of an EFT (Electronic Fund Transfer) at the time of the submission of the application. The assessment of a provider's application will not commence until the fee is received.

The application fee is calculated to meet the costs incurred by QQI for the expert assessment of a provider's compliance with the relevant code of practice. In the case of ELE providers, the fee meets the costs incurred by QQI for the desk-based assessment of compliance with due diligence criteria; the desk-based assessment of compliance with the ELE Code and QA Guidelines for ELE criteria; and the site visit verification of compliance¹.

In the case of private/independent HE providers, the fee meets the costs incurred by QQI for the desk-based assessment of provider compliance with the HE Code.

TrustEd Annual Charge:

Providers authorised to use the TrustEd Ireland mark will be required to pay an annual charge on the anniversary of their authorisation date and then annually. This is in line with Section 62 of the amended Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) Act 2012 and set out in Ministerial Regulations. This fee is referred to as the "annual charge" in this Act. The charge is calculated to meet the costs incurred by QQI for the following:

- (a) maintaining and developing the code of practice,
- (b) promoting the international education mark, and
- (c) maintaining the integrity, on an ongoing basis, of the code of practice, and the international education mark, in particular by ensuring the international education mark is used only by providers who are authorised to do so.

1. TrustEd Ireland Application Fees

The following tables set out the approved suite of application fees.

¹ Additionally, once the site visit date is confirmed, accommodation will be booked and costs met by the provider. Refreshments and lunch (whether on-site or off-site) should be provided by the provider during the site visit. Please see the ELE Handbook.

| TrustEd Ireland (IEM) Application Fees: Higher Education Providers | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| HE Classes of Provider | Application Fee | Assessment of Compliance with HE Code | Due Diligence Assessment |
| Designated Awarding Bodies (DABs) - Universities, Technological Universities, and the Institutes of Technology | Fee included in QQI's existing HE Relationship Fee with these Bodies | ✓ | Exempt |
| Non-DAB publicly funded Providers exempted from Due Diligence and PEL under Section 65(5) of the amended Act of 2012 | €10,000 | ✓ | Exempt |
| All other HE Providers | €10,000 | ✓ | Subject to assessment at a later date** |

****Independent/private HE** providers who, prior to their application for authorisation to use the IEM, have had their quality assurance procedures approved by QQI under the 2012 Act as amended, and have had higher education programmes validated by QQI under the same act, will not be required to undergo the statutory due diligence assessment as part of their application for authorisation to use the IEM, though they will be required to do so at a later date.

**** Non-exempt linked providers** who, prior to their application for authorisation to use the IEM, have had their quality assurance procedures approved by a designated awarding body, and have satisfied all or part of the prerequisites for an award of the designated awarding body, will not be required to undergo the statutory due diligence assessment as part of their application for authorisation to use the IEM, though they will be required to do so at a later date.

| TrustEd Ireland (IEM) Application Fees: English Language Education Providers | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| ELE Provider Band | No. of Learner Weeks per Annum | Application Fee | Assessment of Compliance with ELE Code and QA Guidelines for ELE | Due Diligence Assessment |
| Band A | Less than 5,000 | €5,000 | ✓ | ✓ |
| Band B | 5,000-14,999 | €10,000 | ✓ | ✓ |
| Band C | 15,000-24,999 | €20,000 | ✓ | ✓ |
| Band D | Greater than 25,000 | €30,000 | ✓ | ✓ |

2. TrustEd Ireland Annual Charge

The following table sets out the approved suite of annual charges.

| Trust Ed Ireland (IEM) Annual Charge: Higher Education Providers | | |
|---|---|----------------------|
| HE Provider Band | No. of International Learners (as defined in the HE Code of Practice) enrolled on programmes of education and training which lead to awards included within the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) | Annual Charge |
| Band A | Less than 200 | €2,000 |
| Band B | 200-999 | €6,000 |
| Band C | 1,000-3,999 | €12,000 |
| Band D | Greater than 4,000 | €20,000 |

| Trust Ed Ireland (IEM) Annual Charge: English Language Education Providers | | |
|---|--|----------------------|
| ELE Provider Band | No. of International Learner (as defined in the ELE Code of Practice) Weeks per annum | Annual Charge |
| Band A | Fewer than 5,000 | €2,000 |
| Band B | 5,000-14,999 | €6,000 |
| Band C | 15,000-24,999 | €12,000 |
| Band D | Greater than 25,000 | €20,000 |