

## **Kenya Commission for University Education**

The Commission for University Education, hereinafter CUE, was established under the Universities Act, No. 42 of 2012, as the successor to the Commission for Higher Education. It is the Government agency mandated to regulate university education in Kenya.

The CUE undertakes recognition and equation of Diplomas, Degrees, Post-graduate Diplomas and Post-graduate Certificates conferred or awarded by Foreign Universities and Institutions in accordance with Section 5 (1) (g) of The Universities Act No. 42 of 2012; Section 5A (2) of The Universities Act No. 42 of 2012, Revised Edition 2016 [2015]; Part XI of The Universities Regulations, 2014 and The Universities Standards and Guidelines, 2014.

### **I. General Requirements for Recognition and Equation of Qualifications**

1. The qualification must be Accredited and Recognized.
2. The qualification must have been obtained from an accredited and recognized University or Institution.
3. The holder of the Award must have met the Minimum Entry Requirements for an Academic Programme leading to an equivalent qualification in Kenya.
4. All copies of Certificates and Academic Transcripts presented as proof of attainment of entry requirements for a particular qualification must be certified by an Advocate and Commissioner for Oaths (for Kenyan citizens), an Advocate and Notary Public (for foreigners) OR the issuing University/Institution.

#### **a) Recognition of Diploma Qualifications**

The holder of the Award must have obtained:

1. Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) Mean Grade C (plain) or its Accredited and Recognized equivalent OR
2. KCSE Mean Grade C- or its Accredited and Recognized equivalent with an Accredited and Recognized relevant Post-Secondary Certificate, OR
3. The Kenya Certificate of Education (KCE), East African Certificate of Education (EACE), "Ordinary Level" Division I or II or an Accredited and Recognized equivalent, OR
4. The Kenya Certificate of Education (KCE), East African Certificate of Education (EACE), "Ordinary Level" Division III or an Accredited and Recognized equivalent, plus an Accredited and Recognized Post-Secondary Certificate, OR
5. The Kenya Advanced Certificate of Education (KACE) "Advanced Level" with at least one Principal pass and a subsidiary.

6. The holder of the Diploma Award must have obtained the following minimum number of instructional hours:

a	Applied Sciences and Agriculture:	1650
b	Information Technology:	920
c	Computer Science:	920
d	Engineering:	1650
e	Architecture:	1650
f	Health Sciences:	1650
g	Pure and Natural Sciences:	1250
h	Hotel and Hospitality:	1450
i	Arts and Humanities:	1050
j	Social Sciences:	1050
k	Business Studies:	1050

The Diploma classification shall be as detailed in Table 1.6.1 below:

S/No.	Overall Average Mark	G.P.A	Classification
a	70% and above	3.70 – 4.00	Distinction
b	60% - 69%	3.00 – 3.69	Credit
c	40% - 59%	2.00 – 2.99	Pass
d	Less than 40%	>2.00	Fail

7. The Academic Calendar for the awarding University/Institution must have been divided into one of the following modes:

- Semesters comprising two (2) equal Divisions/Terms of between fifteen – seventeen (15-17) weeks per Academic Year;
- Trimesters comprising three (3) equal Divisions/Terms of between thirteen-fifteen (13-15) weeks per Academic Year; OR
- Quarters comprising four (4) equal Divisions/Terms of between nine-twelve (9-12) weeks per Academic Year.

## **b) Recognition of Bachelor's Degree Qualifications**

The holder of the Award must have obtained:

1. Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) with a Mean Grade of C+ and above or its Accredited and Recognized equivalent, OR
2. An Accredited and Recognized relevant Diploma from an Accredited and Recognized Institution, OR
3. KCSE Mean Grade C (plain) or its Accredited and Recognized equivalent, with an Accredited and Recognized relevant Diploma from an Accredited and Recognized Institution, OR
4. KCSE Mean Grade C- or its Accredited and Recognized equivalent, with an Accredited and Recognized relevant Post-Secondary Certificate plus an Accredited and Recognized relevant Diploma from an Accredited and Recognized institution, OR
5. The Kenya Certificate of Education (KCE), East African Certificate of Education (EACE), "Ordinary Level" Division I or II or an Accredited and Recognized equivalent, plus an Accredited and Recognized Diploma from an Accredited and Recognized institution, OR
6. The Kenya Certificate of Education (KCE), East African Certificate of Education (EACE), "Ordinary Level" Division III or an Accredited and Recognized equivalent, plus an Accredited and Recognized Post-Secondary Certificate and an Accredited and Recognized Diploma from an Accredited and Recognized institution, OR
7. The Kenya Advanced Certificate of Education (KACE) "Advanced Level" with two Principal passes and a subsidiary.
8. The holder of the Bachelors Award must have obtained the following minimum number of instructional hours:

## **c) Recognition of Postgraduate Certificate**

The holder of the Award must have obtained:

1. An Accredited and Recognized Bachelor's degree from an Accredited and Recognized University or Institution.
2. The Postgraduate certificate award must be supported by certified academic transcripts.
3. Research must have constituted not less than one third of the entire programme structure.
4. The holder of the Award must have obtained the minimum of three hundred and fifteen (315) instructional hours.

5. The Academic Calendar for the awarding University/Institution must have been divided into one of the following modes:

- a. Semesters comprising two (2) equal Divisions/Terms of between fifteen – seventeen (15-17) weeks per Academic Year;
- b. Trimesters comprising three (3) equal Divisions/Terms of between thirteen-fifteen (13-15) weeks per Academic Year; OR
- c. Quarters comprising four (4) equal Divisions/Terms of between nine-twelve (9-12) weeks per Academic Year.

**d) Recognition of Post Graduate Diploma**

The holder of the Award must have obtained:

- 1. An Accredited and Recognized Bachelor's degree from an Accredited and Recognized University or Institution.
- 2. The Postgraduate Diploma award must be supported by certified academic transcripts.
- 3. Research must have constituted not less than one third of the entire programme structure.
- 4. The holder of the Award must have obtained the minimum of four hundred and seventy three (473) instructional hours.
- 5. The Academic Calendar for the awarding University/Institution must have been divided into one of the following modes:

- a. Semesters comprising two (2) equal Divisions/Terms of between fifteen – seventeen (15-17) weeks per Academic Year;
- b. Trimesters comprising three (3) equal Divisions/Terms of between thirteen-fifteen (13-15) weeks per Academic Year; OR
- c. Quarters comprising four (4) equal Divisions/Terms of between nine-twelve (9-12) weeks per Academic Year.

**e) Recognition of Master's Degree**

The holder of the Award must have obtained:

- 1. An Accredited and Recognized Bachelor's degree with Second Class Honours Upper Division and above or Equivalent from an Accredited and Recognized University or Institution.
- 2. An Accredited and Recognized Bachelor's degree with Second Class Honours Lower Division or Equivalent from an Accredited and Recognized University or Institution with a minimum of two years relevant working experience.
- 3. The Bachelor's degree Certificate must be supported by certified academic transcripts.
- 4. Research must have constituted not less than one third of the entire programme structure.
- 5. The holder of the Award must have obtained the minimum of six hundred and thirty (630) instructional hours.
- 6. The academic calendar for the awarding University/Institution must have been divided into one of the following modes:

- a. Semesters comprising two (2) equal Divisions/Terms of between fifteen – seventeen (15-17) weeks per Academic Year;
- b. Trimesters comprising three (3) equal Divisions/Terms of between thirteen-fifteen (13-15) weeks per Academic Year; OR
- c. Quarters comprising four (4) equal Divisions/Terms of between nine-twelve (9-12) weeks per Academic Year.

**f) Recognition of Doctorate Degree Qualifications**

The holder of the Award must have obtained:

- 1. An Accredited and Recognized Bachelor's degree with Second Class Honours Upper Division and above OR Equivalent from an Accredited and Recognized University or Institution.
- 2. An Accredited and Recognized Bachelor's degree with Second Class Honours Lower Division or Equivalent from an Accredited and Recognized University or Institution with a minimum of two years relevant working experience.
- 3. An Accredited and Recognized relevant Master's degree from an Accredited and Recognized University or Institution.
- 4. The Bachelor's and Master's degree Certificates must be supported by academic transcripts.
- 5. Research must have constituted not less than two thirds of the entire programme structure.
- 6. The holder of the Award must have studied for a minimum of three (3) Academic Years.
- 7. The academic calendar for the awarding University/Institution must have been divided into one of the following modes:

- a. Semesters comprising two (2) equal Divisions/Terms of between fifteen – seventeen (15-17) weeks per Academic Year;
- b. Trimesters comprising three (3) equal Divisions/Terms of between thirteen-fifteen (13-15) weeks per Academic Year; OR
- c. Quarters comprising four (4) equal Divisions/Terms of between nine-twelve (9-12) weeks per Academic Year.

**II. Equation of Qualifications**

In addition to the requirements for Recognition of Qualifications as provided in Sections (a)-(f) above, Equation of Qualifications shall be based on:

- 1. Previous qualifications before enrolling for the given qualification to confirm adherence to the minimum entry qualifications in line with The Universities Standards and Guidelines, 2014 for an Academic Programme.
- 2. Content and duration of study in line with The Universities Standards and Guidelines, 2014 for an Academic Programme (certified Academic Transcript(s) must be presented).
- 3. In case of professional programmes, registration to practice in the Country of origin.

4. The Academic Calendar for the awarding University/Institution must have been divided into one of the following modes:

- a. Semesters comprising two (2) equal Divisions/Terms of between fifteen – seventeen (15-17) weeks per Academic Year;
- b. Trimesters comprising three (3) equal Divisions/Terms of between thirteen-fifteen (13-15) weeks per Academic Year; OR
- c. Quarters comprising four (4) equal Divisions/Terms of between nine-twelve (9-12) weeks per Academic Year.

5. The duration of study and credit hours for a given qualification. The holder of the Award must have obtained the minimum number of total instructional hours as detailed in Table X.5.1 below in a three (3) contact hour programme spread over a sixteen (16) week Semester OR Equivalent duration:

S/No.	Programme	Contact Hours	Minimum Number of Units
a	Arts and Humanities	1680	35
b	Social Sciences	1680	35
c	Pure and Natural Sciences	1785	37
d	Applied Sciences	2240	47
d	Medical & Allied Sciences	3960	83

The Degree classification shall be as detailed in Table X.5.2 below:

S/No.	Overall Average Mark	G.P.A	Classification
a	70% and above	3.70 – 4.00	First Class Honours
b	60% - 69%	3.00 – 3.69	Second Class Honours (Upper Division)
c	40% - 59%	2.00 – 2.99	Second Class Honours (Lower Division)
d	40% to less than 50%	2.00 – 2.49	Pass