Statement

**CTSI Professional Competency Framework**

**DCATS Transition**

Dear Student

The new qualifications transition information is now finalised and is available on the [website.](https://www.tradingstandards.uk/practitioners/training-development/ctsi-professional-competency-framework-2019)  This information, at the time of being published, did not include information regarding the position of students who have DCATS already.

Further discussions were needed on this aspect to ensure that opportunities are available for all students that wish to come into the new qualification.

The Qualifications and Awards Board (QAB) has agreed that a student who has the Diploma in Consumer Affairs and Trading Standards (DCATS) has a trading standards qualification, which has been pitched at the national qualification framework level 5, in Scotland level 8.

If a student with DCATS wishes to continue their study they can come into the new qualification and go straight to stage 3 and complete the requirements at this level to be able to then apply for Chartered Status.

If a student with DCATS wishes to complete any statutory requirement that sit within Unit 4 Trading Standards Law part 2, then the student will be required to complete the whole of unit 4 (Legal Metrology – mandatory; and two out of the three subjects of Food standards, Feed and Product Safety).  If a student has already achieved any of these subjects then exemptions will be applied, although continued professional development may be required.

Students with any exemptions will be required to use these within the new qualification during the grandfather rights period of 3 years, after this point application for exceptional circumstances will need to be applied for.   The QAB will ratify awards with exemptions, until 2024.

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