

5.1 Delegation of authority to make awards

Delegation of authority to make awards is subject to the requirements set out in the legislation including procedures and criteria. Institutes of technology have:

- a) Robust procedures in place for the approval of programmes. Additional guidance on approval of programmes is available in the *Core Policy and Criteria for the Validation of Education and Training Programmes by QQI*.
- b) Robust procedures in place for assessment of learners agreed in sectoral conventions and protocols documented in *Assessment and Standards, 2013*.
- c) Due regard to the quality assurance approach to, and guidelines on research degrees at NFQ level 9 as set out in the *Sectoral Protocols for the Awarding of Research Master Degrees at NFQ Level 9 under delegated authority (DA) from QQI*.
- d) Due regard to the quality assurance approach to, and guidelines on, making joint awards under the NFQ, as set out in the *Sectoral Protocols for the Delegation of Authority by QQI to the Institutes of Technology to make Joint Awards, May 2014*.

Procedures may be adapted as necessary in the context of institutional mergers, amalgamation and strategic alliances with designated awarding bodies.