

Introducing the International Education Mark



A new quality assurance tool to protect the interests of international students in Ireland



The IEM at a glance...

By promoting public confidence, nationally and internationally, in the quality of the Irish educational system, the IEM will ensure that international learners enrolled with higher education and English language education providers are protected and receive a quality, consistent learning experience.

Public confidence

The IEM will represent and promote public confidence in quality of Irish providers delivering programmes to international students

Academic provision

Covering quality of academic provision and student supports, capacity to implement robust QA, and deliver coherent programmes

Enhanced quality assurance

Grounded on existing national quality assurance infrastructure, including ESG QA guidelines, enhanced by new statutory codes of practice for providers

Learner protection

Underpinned by due diligence requirements for private providers, and a statutory learner protection fund to protect international students

CODES OF PRACTICE

Higher Education

Code of practice supplements statutory QA and sets out principles and criteria on:

- Ethical marketing and recruitment (incl. agents)
- Accurate information provision
- Fair, transparent & consistent admission policies
- Fees, refunds & subsistence
- Academic and pastoral supports
- Learners based outside the State

English Language Education

Code of practice embeds compliance with formal QA system for ELE provision in Ireland and sets out principles and criteria on:

- Requirements for school premises
- Organisational structures
- QA structure (incl. policies, reviews, corporate & academic governance)
- Academic management structures
- Academic and pastoral supports
- Staff supports, conditions & development
- Ethical marketing & recruitment (incl. agents)
- Enrolment, fees, refunds & subsistence

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

Public HE

- QA procedures
- Access, transfer and progression arrangements
- Programmes/awards in NFQ
- Code compliant

Private HE

- QA procedures
- Access, transfer and progression arrangements
- Programmes/awards in NFQ
- Due diligence
- Protection of enrolled learners scheme
- Code compliant

ELE

- ELE QA scheme compliant
- Due diligence
- Protection of enrolled learners scheme
- Code compliant

STEPS TO AUTHORISATION

1

Codes of Practice

2

Application

3

Assessment

4

Authorisation

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

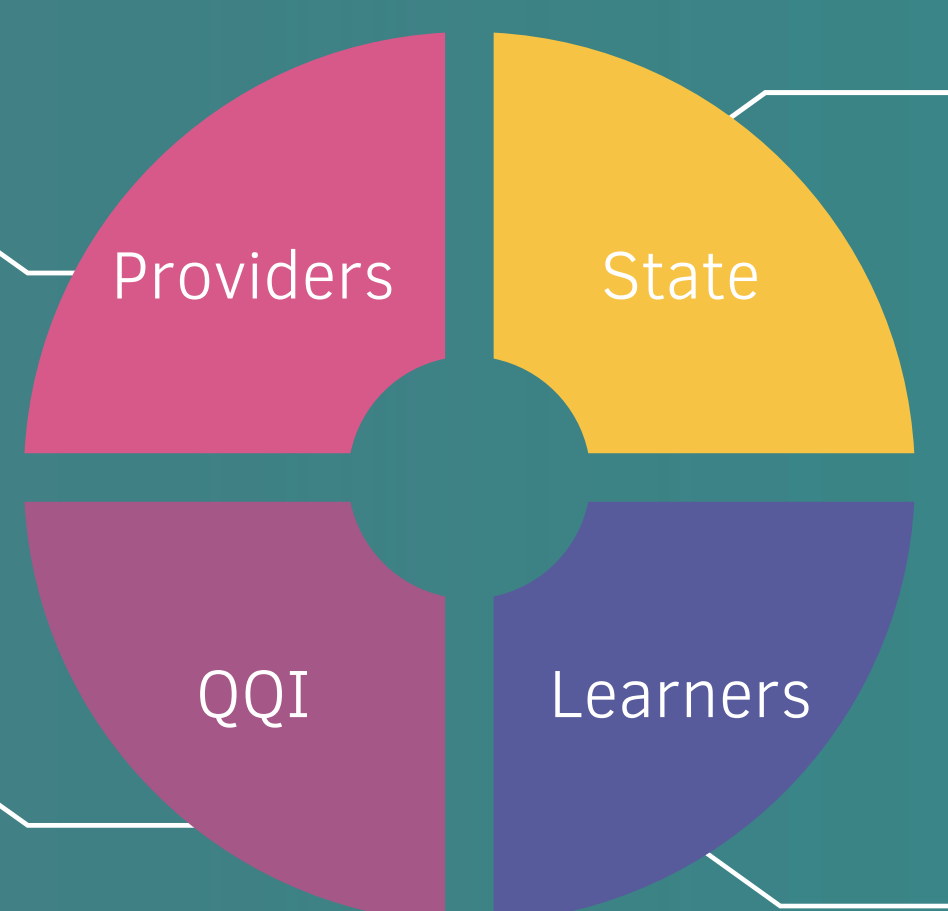
✓ Public confidence

✓ Learners protected

✓ Quality experience

- State attestation of providers/programmes
- Support marketing/promotion
- National standards for care of int. students

- Strengthen existing QA and qualifications policies
- Help establish new QA policies in emerging areas (i.e. online provision)
- New basis for engagement with ELE sector



- Support national immigration strategy
- Support Ireland's international education strategy
- Enhance reputation of Irish education and training

- Reliable guide to providers
- Ensure quality & consistency of learning experience
- Enhance quality & transparency of programme/award information