



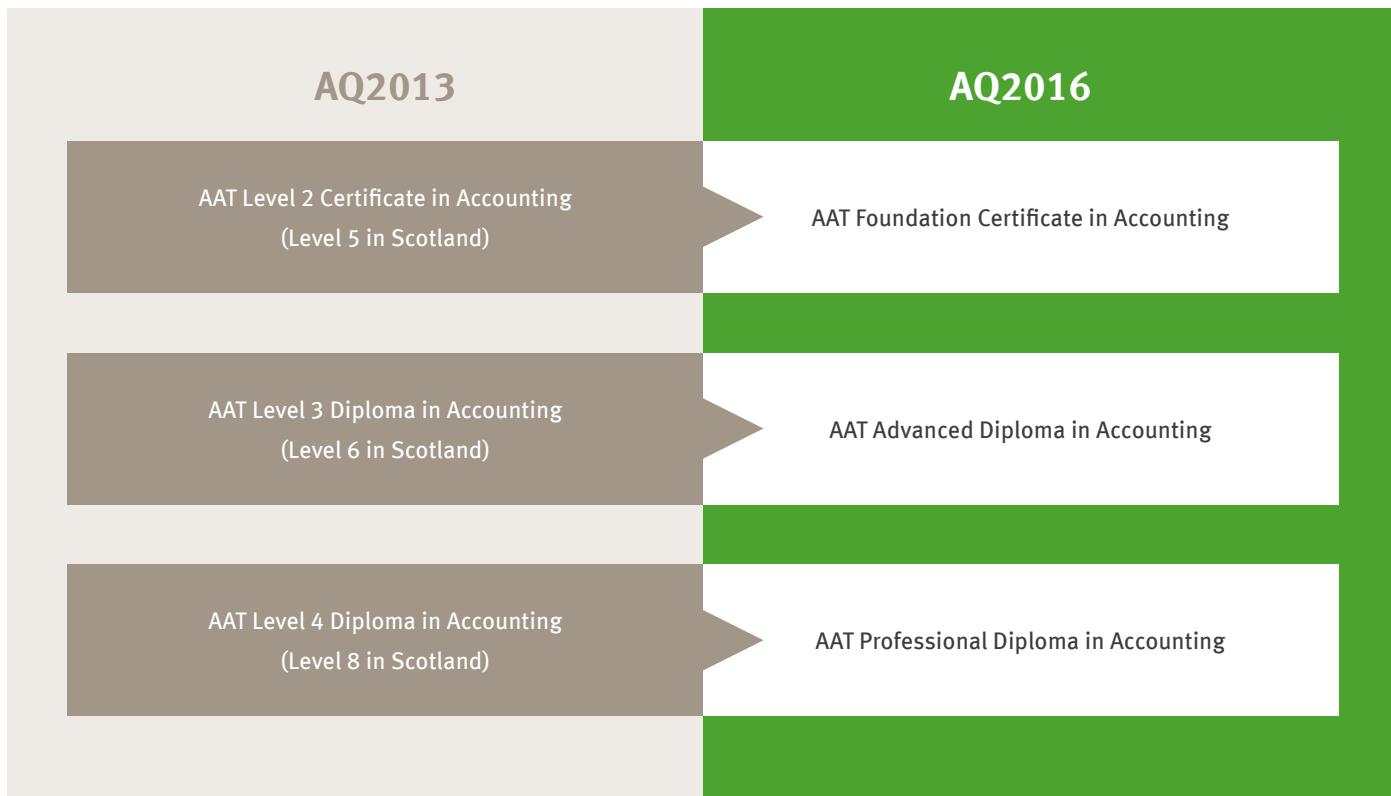
# AAT AQ2016: A GUIDE FOR EMPLOYERS

**KAPLAN**

# KEY CHANGES UNDER AQ2016: WHAT DO THESE MEAN FOR ME AND MY STUDENTS?

## NEW NAMING FOR AQ2016 LEVELS

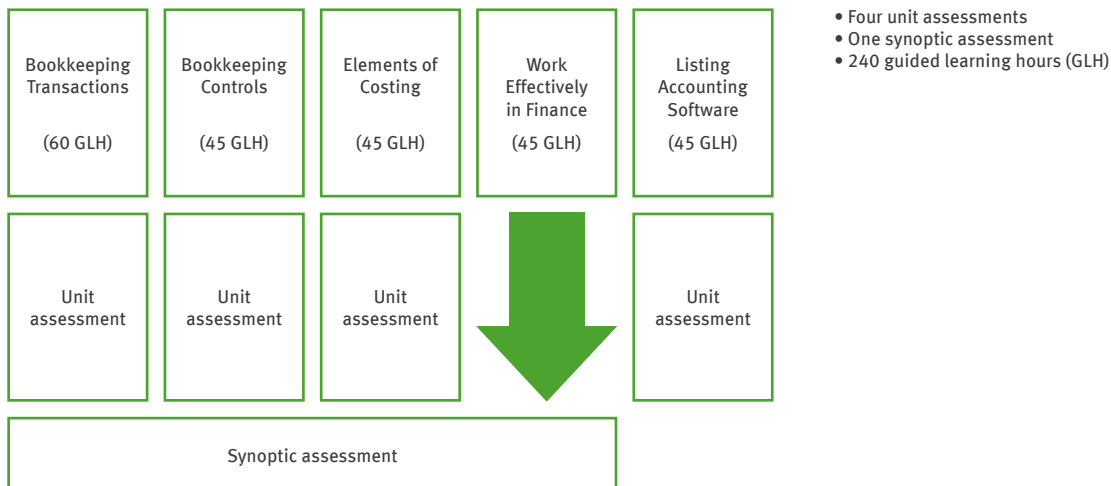
For **AQ2016**, AAT have renamed each of the Levels, with Levels now referred to as **Qualifications**.



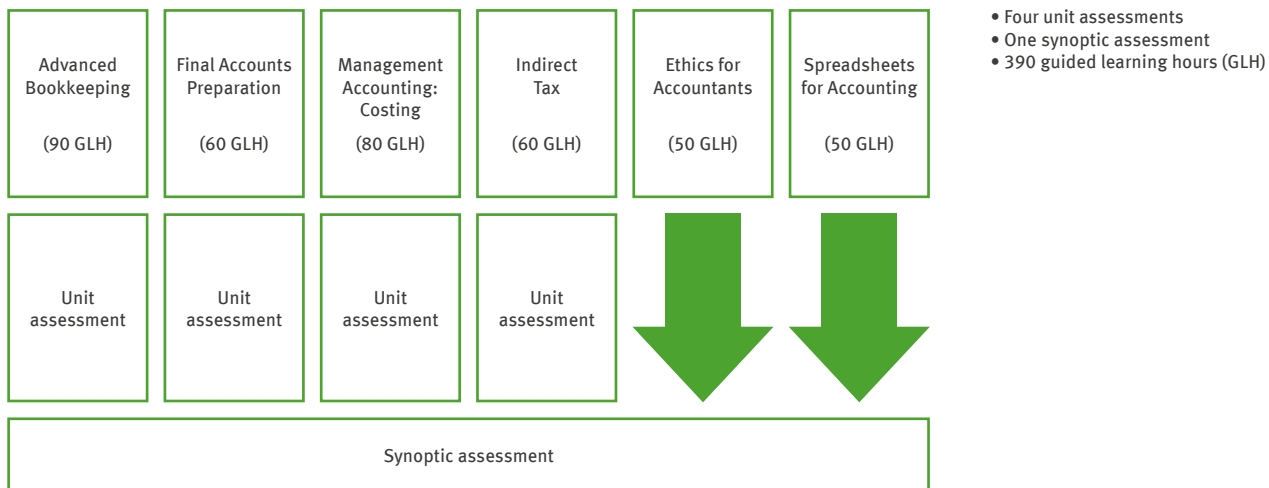
Synoptic assessments	Changes to re-sitting assessments	Qualification grading
<p>Synoptic assessments test a student’s understanding of connections between the different topics covered across the qualification (level).</p> <p><b>Each qualification (level) has one synoptic assessment.</b></p> <p>It is a computer based exam, that a student will attempt once they have completed the other core units within the qualification.</p> <p>To be successful in the synoptic assessments students will have to demonstrate their overall accountancy skills, retaining and demonstrating their knowledge from all of the core units within each qualification. Some students may find this quite daunting so Kaplan courses have been designed to provide additional support and resources to give students the confidence they need.</p>	<p>The resit rule only applies to students who are 16-18 on the Foundation (L2) &amp; Advanced (L3) qualifications living in the UK (excluding Scotland).</p> <p><b>It does not apply to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Students who are 19 years and over</li> <li>▶ Apprentices</li> </ul> <p>Students subject to the resit rule will only be able to attempt each assessment twice within a 24 month registration period.</p> <p>If a student isn’t subject to the rule they have no restrictions on the number of attempts they have at any unit assessment.</p>	<p>Students will be awarded a grade on completion of their qualification (level).</p> <p><b>The grade is determined by weighting the percentage students have achieved on each assessment as follows:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Distinction (90%+ weighted average)</li> <li>▶ Merit (80% - 89% weighted average)</li> <li>▶ Pass (70% - 79% weighted average)</li> </ul> <p>Students will be told their percentage for each assessment and will be able to resit an assessment in an attempt to improve their grade if they wish.</p> <p>Employers can see how well a student has performed in their exams, which could be useful information when assessing overall workplace performance.</p>

# OVERVIEW OF AQ2016 QUALIFICATIONS

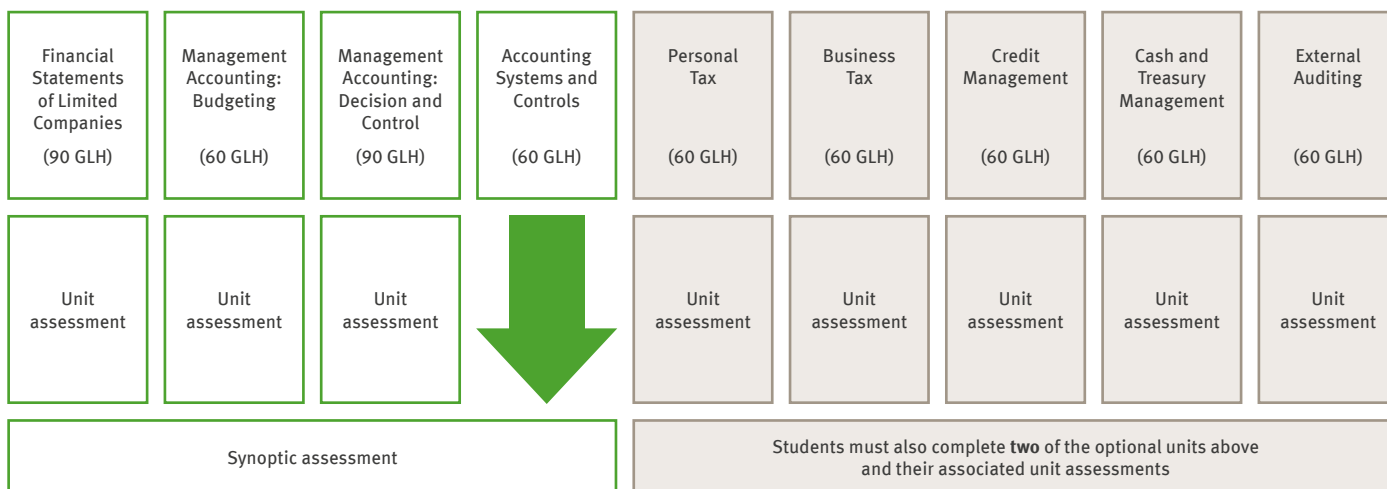
## AAT FOUNDATION CERTIFICATE IN ACCOUNTING LEVEL 2



## AAT ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN ACCOUNTING LEVEL 3



## AAT PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMA IN ACCOUNTING LEVEL 4



- Five unit assessments (Three units plus two optional unit assessments)
- One synoptic assessment
- 420 guided learning hours (GLH)

## OTHER KEY INFORMATION

### WHEN DO MY STUDENTS NEED TO MOVE ONTO AQ2016?

AQ2013 is available until **31 December 2017** – so students have plenty of time to complete their level under AQ2013. However they will be unable to start studying for a new level under AQ2013 after the 1st September.

Students who complete a level and transfer onto the next level after **1st September** will automatically be transferred onto AQ2016.

All units directly transfer between AQ2013 and AQ2016 with the exception of the synoptic assessments and those units that are now assessed only as part of the synoptic (but were previously assessed separately). Whether a student should transfer to AQ2016 depends on the units they have completed so far. The general advice is to move to AQ2016 unless:

- ▶ Foundation level – the student has passed WKAF
- ▶ Advanced level – the student has passed PETH and / or SDST
- ▶ Professional level – the student has passed ISYS. If not, then a student should transfer if they would prefer to sit a synoptic exam instead of complete a written project (ISYS)
- ▶ The student has units in their level achieved prior to AQ2013 as these will be not be transitioned to the AQ2016 qualifications

Any transitional arrangements from AQ2013 to AQ2016 will be transferred on to a student's statement of achievement as a **70%** pass mark so it will be hard to get above a pass grade for that level on AQ2016.

Students who let their membership lapse and re-register after the **1st September 2016** will be automatically transferred onto AQ2016.

### HOW DOES AQ2016 FIT IN WITH TRAILBLAZER STANDARDS FOR APPRENTICES?

The introduction of AQ2016 by the AAT represents the updating of the AAT set of qualifications.

The new Trailblazer standards currently under development govern the knowledge, skills and behaviours expected of an apprentice in a particular job role. Once finalised these will ultimately replace the current Apprenticeship Framework

There is not a direct link between these two things. The qualifications available within AQ2016 can be used as part of the existing Apprenticeship Frameworks and the new Trailblazer Standards. The qualification is identical, it is the additional assessment required as part of the Apprenticeship that is different.

Students completing the Professional Diploma under AQ2016 (previously Level 4), will still need to complete the Level 4 Diploma in Business Skills if they are completing their Apprenticeship under the existing Framework.

**For more information on Trailblazers, please see our separate [fact sheet](#).**

### WHAT'S NEXT

Any students studying as part of an Apprenticeship will be advised by their assessor on what action to take given their specific circumstances.

Any students funded by their employer should consult our student transition guidance document. If they wish to speak to an advisor to further discuss their specific circumstances and gain additional advice they should contact our Customer Support team on **01908 201 127**.



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**For further information on AQ2016 or Apprenticeships, please contact:**

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