

QUALIFICATIONS FOR EXTERNAL PEER REVIEWERS

The *Academic Quality Framework* (p.8) states that the “review team will normally consist of two peer reviewers who are external to the University and one internal AKU reviewer who is external to the entity.”

The reviewers should be at arm’s length from the programme under review. A conflict of interest may be deemed to exist, or be perceived as such, when a potential reviewer

- is a relative or close friend of a member of the entity under review;
- is currently affiliated with the entity or AKU;
- is a former member of the program or entity under review (including being a visiting professor)
- has had long-standing scientific or personal differences with a member of the entity;
- is closely affiliated professionally with a member of the entity (e.g. as a supervisor or a trainee of a member of the entity; published or shared funding with a member of the entity); or
- feels for any reason unable to provide an impartial review of the entity.

Please be aware that this is not an exhaustive list.

Reviewers should be active and respected in their field(s)

They should have had academic administrative experience, in such roles as a program coordinator, department chair or dean.

Finally, the team as a group should match and cover the intellectual profile of the programme.

Method of Appointment

The entity under review nominates a list (perhaps five or six, for example, in an undergraduate review) from whom a choice is made by the Dean, the QAI_net Director and the Provost (*Academic Quality Framework*, p.12).