

# A23 University Partnership Policy

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## 1 Introduction

This policy formalises the approach for engagement with University partners in the context of UK-validation of SAE degrees.

### 1.1 Related Policies and Documents

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- University of Hertfordshire AS17 Academic Quality (Section D)
- Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook.

## 2 Scope

This policy applies only to partnership agreements between SAE Institute and UK Universities for the purposes of validation of SAE's undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes. It does not apply to any SAE modules, programmes or campuses outside of UK-validated provision, nor to SAE partnerships of any other nature.

## 3 Policy

### 3.1 Overview of University Partnership

SAE has a long-standing model of partnership with a UK university for the validation of undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes. This model is distinct from:

- SAE campuses and operations outside of UK-validated provision (whether owned by AD Education or Navitas Group),
- SAE self-accredited short courses, diplomas, and other provisions.

The University Partnership Standards and Quality Committee (UPSQC) operates within SAE to retain responsibility of UK-validated provision, to ensure good communications between the Institute and the University partner, and to ensure that all operational procedures are carried out correctly and according to established processes. Day-to-day communications and operational queries from SAE are directed through the EU Registry department, which supports the UPSQC.

### 3.2 Operational Alignment

The terms of University partnership arrangements with SAE are set out in a formal Partnership Agreement signed by both parties. SAE is obliged to abide by the terms of these agreements. The validation of SAE undergraduate and postgraduate programmes through University partners are subject to distinct written agreements.

Within the context of these agreements, and as general practice, SAE seeks to align academic policies and operations for any validated programmes with those of the University partner. Where there are differences between the two (e.g., to account for SAE's globally distributed structure), these differences in policy and operations will be agreed by both partners with the University retaining oversight at all times.

Where SAE campuses run programmes that are not subject to validation by the University partner (whether through another partnership, or as non-validated SAE diplomas and programmes), policies and operations for those programmes may vary from those in the Quality Manual, but in such cases alternative policies or operations are expected to be in place. Where such programmes are subject to articulation or progression agreements with the University partner, SAE will generally seek to align with the University, and will ensure full and prompt communication of any changes from that alignment for consideration of the University partner.

Where SAE delivers distinct programmes validated by more than one University partner, it may simultaneously operate distinct processes and operations, to ensure that any student registered with a University partner is treated under the regulations of that University.

For the sake of efficiency, where possible, the same policies and operations may be used across all provisions, but only if this does not conflict with the requirements of partnership or validation agreements. Wherever possible, unified policies covering multiple partnerships will be implemented, with specifics for different partner regulations detailed as appendices.

## 4 Policy History

Policy Created:	July 2021
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