



Agensi Kelayakan Malaysia  
Malaysian Qualifications Agency

## **MALAYSIAN QUALIFICATIONS AGENCY (MQA) PUBLIC STATEMENT NO. 3/2018**

### **Dual Awards**

MQA joins the Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia in supporting all forms of collaborations within and beyond borders. Such collaborations have the potential to extend our students' learning experience, introduce Malaysian higher education to others, share expertise and develop collaboration in other spheres. Such collaboration may take the form of dual award arrangements. In crafting this arrangement, Malaysian universities must be aware of and provide clear and adequate information about the nature of these awards and their conferment representations.

Dual awards must be clearly distinguished from double degrees where a learner takes on a longer duration of learning (greater volume of learning) and completes additional courses. Double degrees are not distinguished from the two degrees if taken separately with or without transfers.

However, dual awards which involve two highly similar programmes and may require some time to be spent in both awarding universities, are different from double degrees. Therefore, the scroll or the transcript and/or the Malaysian Qualifications Statement (MQS) must make clear mention of the nature of this collaboration resulting in the dual conferment. This is imperative to provide clear and truthful information to the learner, employers, other HEPs and funding bodies on the awards as contrasted with two degrees or double degrees.

The students must also be informed how they should communicate two awards to potential users of the qualifications. It is important the graduates are duly apprised on how they may represent the awards to others which must be distinguished from two degrees earned through conventional means.

MQA, through its periodic reviews, will examine these arrangements and take action to ensure all providers include clear information about these collaborative programmes.

This position statement is applicable to all MQA accredited qualifications and awards which are part of any dual award arrangements. This statement should not be construed to mean recognition of other awards provided by foreign partner institutions in any dual award arrangement with Malaysian HEP.

Date: 26 February 2018