

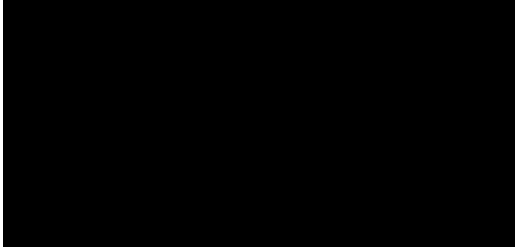


University of East Anglia

Information Compliance (ITCS)

The Library
University of East Anglia
Norwich Research Park
Norwich NR4 7TJ
United Kingdom

Email: foi@uea.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 1603 593 523
Fax: +44 (0) 1603 591 010
Web: <http://www.uea.ac.uk>



19 April 2018

Dear 

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI_18-086)

We have now considered your request of 12 April 2018 for information relating to the verification of undergraduate qualifications obtained from Nigeria.

Our response is on page 2 of this letter, together with a copy of your request.

We hope this information will meet your requirements, however if you are not satisfied you have the right of appeal. If you wish to appeal, please set out in writing your reasons for appealing and send to the above address. You must appeal within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter. Any appeal received after that date will not be considered nor acknowledged. This policy has been reviewed and approved by the Information Commissioner's Office.

You also have a subsequent right of appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office. Further information is available on their website:

https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us, or by telephone on 0303 123 1113.

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Please quote our reference given at the head of this letter in all correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Dave Palmer
Information Policy and Compliance Manager
University of East Anglia

Response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 request (FOI_18-086)

- 1. How many Nigerian undergraduate or related qualification holders were admitted into your postgraduate school - in 2015, 2016 and 2017?*
- 2. Of the number above, and for each of the years, how many of the admitted students did you obtain evidence directly from the issuing institution in Nigeria confirming the authenticity of their qualification?*

Our response is provided in the table below:

Year	Postgraduate registrants of Nigerian nationality	Obtained evidence directly from issuing institution in Nigeria
2015	7	0
2016	19	0
2017	23	0

The University does not send requests directly to Nigerian (or other) institutions to confirm the authenticity of qualifications.

- 3. If there is a difference in the number stated from 1 and 2 above, could you explain other ways or evidence you rely upon to confirm the authenticity of the student's undergraduate qualifications prior to offering admission and subsequent award of degree.*

There are a number of sources utilised in determining a student's academic qualification in order to enable them to register on a course:

- UK National Recognition Information Centre (NARIC)¹ checks against the institution. UEA only accepts study that has taken place in a NARIC approved institution, and there is a growing NARIC database of genuine degree certificates that we can check against.
- Local knowledge through our Nigerian office and International Officers who work within the country.
- Admissions / Visa Compliance staff with experience of academic qualifications, and checks made to identify possible fraudulent documents.
- All students are required to provide original degree certificates prior to registration, which are checked against the scans that were originally provided.

¹ <https://www.naric.org.uk/naric/>