

## Professional Membership (Associate)

Professional Membership in the Class of Associate is the Class of Professional Membership in which most Professional Members are found.

4

### Professional Member (Associate)

4.1

An applicant for transfer to the Grade of Professional Member in the Class of Associate should

This Regulation sets out the minimum requirements for transfer to Professional Member in the Class of Associate

4.1.1

be able to demonstrate that they have sufficient maturity and commitment to the field of surface coatings

It is unlikely that applicants below the age of 25 will be able to demonstrate the levels of maturity and commitment to transfer to the Grade under Regulations 4.1.1, 4.1.2, and 4.1.3

4.1.2

be an Ordinary Member of the Association or a Professional Member of the Association

In order to *transfer* to this Grade, you must be a Member (i.e. not a Registered Student)

4.1.3

be, or have been, employed in a responsible position in surface coatings technology; and

The Association is looking for a position of responsibility in the science or technology of surface coatings, and expects you to be employed in, or have been employed by, a company that is active within the surface coating sector. Employment within the academic sector is acceptable.

4.1.4

have undergone a period of training and gained experience in surface coatings technology covering a period of not less than five years.

In addition to the requirements in Regulations 4.1.1, 4.1.2, and 4.1.3, you are required to demonstrate that you have gained training and experience in surface coatings technology for a minimum of five years. The Association recognizes that not all applicants for the Grade will have had the opportunity to undergo a structured training program. What you need to show is that you have acquired the skills and training necessary for you to undertake your employment in surface coatings technology.

4.2

An applicant for direct election to the Grade of Professional Member in the Class of Associate must:

This Regulation sets out the minimum requirements for direct election to the Grade of Professional Member in the Class of Associate

4.2.1

be able to demonstrate that they have sufficient maturity and commitment to the field of surface coatings and:

It is unlikely that applicants below the age of 25 will be able to demonstrate the levels of maturity and commitment for Admission to the Professional Grade in the Class of Associate under Regulations 4.2.1, 4.2.2 and 4.2.3

#### 4.2.2

be, or have been, employed in a responsible position in surface coating technology; and

The Association is looking for a position of responsibility in the science or technology of surface coatings, and expects you to be employed in, or have been employed by, a company that is active within the surface coating sector. Employment within the academic sector is acceptable

#### 4.2.3

hold a qualification on the list of qualifications show here:

- National Qualification Framework (NQF 2008) Levels 5 or above
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ 2008) Level I or above
- or equivalent or Higher Qualifications

and

have undergone a period of training and experience in surface coating technology covering a period of not less than seven years

In addition to satisfying the requirements of Regulations 4.2.3 and 4.2.4 you are required to have undergone a period of training and gained experience in surface coatings. Formal study post-18 in a discipline relevant to surface coatings is also recognized as providing training and experience.

The Association recognizes that not all applicants for the Grade will have had the opportunity to undergo a structured training program. What you need to demonstrate is that you have acquired the skills and training necessary for you to undertake your career in the surface coating sector.

In order to satisfy the academic requirements for direct entry, applicants should hold a qualification at Level 5 or above of the UK's National Qualification Framework, moderated by an authorized awarding body.

For guidance, 'NQF level 5' corresponds to foundation degrees, HND's, graduate membership of chartered bodies, and higher national diplomas. NQF level 5 includes significant exposure to the world of work. Specialist Higher National Diplomas and BTECs are available at this level. Courses offering such qualifications typically demand at least 200 hours of learning of which 80 hours should be guided learning after the completion of full time secondary education at 18.

'FHEQ Level I' is satisfactory completion of a three year full-time equivalent study course in a relevant discipline learning after the completion of full time secondary education at 18.

The Association will recognise graduates of the Materials Production and Supply National Skills Academy at the appropriate level within a Surface Coating Profile.

If you do not hold a suitable qualification or qualifications, the Association will make an assessment of your qualifications and recommend a remedial package if necessary. Once you have completed the remedial package, you may re-apply for election or transfer to the Grade.

#### 4.3

Applications for transfer or direct election to the Grade of Professional Member in the Class of Associate must be made on the application form. The application must be signed by the applicant and countersigned, as sponsors, by two professional Members of the Association at least one of whom must be in the Class of Fellow. One of the sponsors should be able to attest to the applicant's academic qualifications. One of the sponsors should be a person under whose sponsorship or supervision the applicant has worked. Sponsors may be required to complete a written statement.

The application form for Admission to the Grade can be downloaded as a PDF® document from <http://www.occa.org.uk/appforms.lasso> or obtained from the Association. The Association's Regulations require you to nominate two professional Members of the Association as sponsors. Before nominating them you should check that they are willing to recommend your application. Sponsors may be required to complete a sponsorship report. One of the sponsors should be, or should have been, your supervisor. If you do not know two Professional Members in the appropriate Class, please contact the Membership Secretary who will be able to help you. However, applicants are normally expected to know Professional Members. The Association may request you to attend an interview. The completed application form should be sent to the Association using the address at the top of the form.

#### 4.4

There is no application fee, but a successful applicant must pay an annual subscription to maintain membership

Once the Association has decided to admit you to the Grade, you will have to pay a subscription before your Admission becomes effective. Failure to pay the subscription renders the Admission null and void. Thereafter, if you wish to remain in Membership, you must pay an annual subscription which falls due on 1st January. Failure to pay the annual subscription before the subsequent 31st March will result in you being suspended from the Register of Members (the Register), unless, in the meantime, you pay your subscription and any arrears. You will remain suspended until the 31st December in the year following your suspension after which you will be removed from the Register. Subsequent re-Admission may not be automatic and will be considered against the Regulations then current.

#### 4.5

A Professional Member in the Class of Associate shall receive a certificate of membership

As a member of the Grade, you will receive a certificate to commemorate your membership. This certificate remains the property of the Association and should be returned if you cease to be a member of the Association, or on request of the Association.

#### 4.6

A Professional Member in the Class of Associate is entitled to describe them self as an Associate in the Technology of Surface Coatings and may use the designatory letters ATSC after their name, provided that they remain in Membership

As a member of the Grade, you may describe yourself as an Associate in the Technology of Surface Coatings and use the abbreviation ATSC after your name. If you resign or are deleted from membership of the Association, neither will you be permitted to describe yourself as an Associate in the Technology of Surface Coatings, nor use the abbreviation ATSC after your name.

The responsibilities of professional membership of the Association include a commitment to Continuous Professional Development through a formal route, and subscription to the Association's Code of Professional Conduct.