

Phased approach to launch of new application system and related processes

Following the recent webinar introducing the new professional qualification processes, we wanted to update you on the launch of the new membership application system which is replacing the current membership application system on 6 April.

A successful first round of thorough testing by the membership and qualifications teams identified a number of issues that required addressing and subsequent re-testing. As a consequence, the Future Institution Transformation (FIT) Board, the body overseeing IChemE's IT Transformation Programme, made the decision to focus the launch on specific grades and the third stage of the qualification process for those seeking to qualify as Chartered Members. This means that those members who have satisfied the requirements of Stages 1 and 2 can move forward to Stage 3, their Professional Review. Those who are required to complete Stages 1 and/or 2 members will be given access to a suite of guidance documents, introductory webinar recordings and briefings to help them prepare their applications for when these stages are ready for launch.

As David Lloyd-Roach, Director Qualifications says: "It's important that we learn from past experience. By focussing our efforts and those of the developer on implementing one of the stages precisely from the outset, we can then carry out the necessary due diligence required to ensure an efficient implementation.

On 6 April, applications will be accepted for the following grades:

- Students
- Affiliate
- Associate
- Technician
- Associate Fellow
- Chartered (Stage 3 only)
- Fellow (transfer from Chartered Member)

Assessment of applications will begin from 10 May.

A [web page](#) has been set up to tell the story so far, provide future updates, together with FAQs and links back to the guidance documents, invitations to informational webinars and recorded content to assist those preparing their application.

The introduction of a new membership application system and related processes is an important step for IChemE to remove barriers to membership, deliver sustainable growth to remain relevant to the profession, satisfy our Regulator's requirements and continue to welcome members to join us in our efforts to advance chemical engineering's contribution worldwide for the benefit of society. Our aim is to provide the very best service to you, our members, which is why we have decided to phase in the launch of our new professional qualification processes. We want to ensure the efficiency of each stage and be sure that it is ready to meet the expected growth. These processes are being implemented via a new membership application system which will interface in turn with our relatively new customer relationship management (CRM) database. The new system is necessary not only to implement the changes to the professional qualification process but replace the previous system which is now obsolete. We appreciate this may delay your progress towards your Chartered application. However, while we work to bring in the remaining stages of the applications, we will provide guidance documents for these stages and supporting material to help you prepare your own application.

At this time, we are not forecasting dates for opening the remaining applications but will keep you up to date via our website and other member communications as and when appropriate. We will, though, seize every opportunity to get the new stages launched as soon as we can. In the meantime, please visit the website for further guidance or if you have any further questions then please do not hesitate to contact members@icheme.org