

Academic & Education Regulations

Academic Regulations

For Accreditation and Approval of education programmes for the purpose of elections to Chartered Member as Chartered Chemical Engineer and Professional Process Safety Engineer, Associate Member as Incorporated Chemical Engineer and Technician Member as Chemical Engineering Technician

Accreditation of Educational Programmes (chemical engineering and process safety engineering)

- 1.1 Accreditation is the process used by IChemE to assess whether specific educational programmes delivered at a specific site or sites provide all or some of the underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills for eventual registration in a particular registration category.
- 1.2 In making a judgement, IChemE will consider evidence from a range of indicators. These shall include:
 - the learning outcomes of the programme
 - the teaching and learning processes
 - the assessment strategies employed
 - the human, physical and material resources involved
 - the awarding education institution's internal regulations regarding progression and the awarding of degrees
 - quality assurance arrangements
 - feedback from meetings with students
 - how any previous accreditation recommendations and requirements have been dealt with
 - entry to the programme and how the cohort entry extremes will be supported
 - IChemE's regulations regarding progression and the awarding of degrees.
- 1.3 IChemE shall appoint a committee that takes the decisions about whether or not a programme will be recognised. Decisions shall be based on the report from the accreditation panel.
- 1.4 IChemE shall specify:
 - the process of selecting and training assessors
 - the constitution of accreditation panels. In particular, there shall be a balance of academic and industry assessors, and the panel shall include assessors with experience relevant to the appropriate registration category. IChemE shall take reasonable steps to avoid conflicts of interest
 - the form of the submission required from the provider
 - any charges which may be levied upon the provider or awarding organisation
 - the outline agendas for accreditation visits appropriate to the range of programmes
 - the criteria against which the accreditation judgement will be made, including learning outcomes
 - the processes by which further consultation with the education provider is carried out, decisions are made, feedback is given to the education provider concerned
 - the processes by which appeals against decisions are considered, and the decisions notified to the Engineering Council.
- 1.5 Accreditation for purposes of registration as Chartered Chemical Engineer or Professional Process Safety Engineer or Incorporated Chemical Engineer shall be conducted by IChemE and against the processes and procedures outlined in *Accreditation of Chemical Engineering Programmes - a guide for higher education providers and assessors*.

1.6 In considering applications for accreditation, IChemE shall;

- accredit only programmes which provide awards granted on the basis of clearly-defined-learning outcomes
- ensure that the programme is at the appropriate level in the applicable UK qualifications framework or at an equivalent level within an appropriate international framework
- monitor the accuracy of the awarding institution's published information about the programme's accredited status and registration
- visit the awarding institution as part of the assessment if necessary.

1.7 The outcome of an accreditation assessment shall be one of the following:

- the programme is accredited as fully meeting the learning outcomes at the requisite level
- the programme is accredited as partially meeting the learning outcomes at the requisite level
- either of the above, provided specified conditions are met and/or specified modifications are made within a set timetable
- the programme is not recognised.

1.8 Programmes shall be recognised for a fixed period of not more than five years. Accreditation may be backdated to allow cohorts whose work has been reviewed as part of the recognition process to benefit from the decision.
Backdating shall apply for a period immediately before forwards recognition being considered. Programmes may be recognised which, at the time of application, do not have an output cohort. IChemE shall monitor the output of such programmes until such time as at least one cohort has completed the programme and review their recognition accordingly.

1.9 Re-accreditation of a programme shall normally be by the same process as for initial accreditation unless there is in place an arrangement for continuing periodic audit and review which has been approved by IChemE's Qualifications Committee. Such arrangements may involve evidence obtained by other bodies.

Approval of Qualifications and Programmes (chemical engineering)

- 1.10 Approval of a programme of learning attests to its content. This means the overall design, depth and range of coverage, and validity and reliability of the assessment of the learner. Approval is used to recognise the underpinning knowledge and understanding covered by a programme, and can also be used to recognise the development of competence.
- 1.11 Approval attests that a programme of learning meets the learning outcomes as described in AHEP and Approval & Accreditation of Qualifications and Apprenticeships (AAQA), or that it develops competence at a level described in AAQA.
- 1.12 Approval for purposes of registration as Chemical Engineering Technician shall be conducted by IChemE and against the processes and procedures outlined in *Approval of EngTech training programmes, qualifications or apprenticeships*.
- 1.13 Qualifications and programmes shall be approved for a fixed period of not more than five years, but this period shall be shortened if the qualification or programme undergoes significant change during this period. Re-approval of a programme shall be by the same process as for initial approval.