

Are you on the professional accreditation pathway?

Professional accreditation is a formal recognition of your skills, knowledge and behaviours and how you use these to carry out your work effectively to professional standards. It is a significant achievement for anyone.

Accreditation is different from academic qualifications. It shows that you can also apply your knowledge and skills to real-world scenarios, so having the right level of accreditation for the knowledge and skills you have is important too.

ClfA's professional pathways scheme

Sometimes knowing how to build on your existing knowledge and skills to reach the next stage in your professional career, or what information to include in an application for Practitioner, Associate or Member accreditation, can be challenging.

Our professional pathways scheme can help! It provides structured resources to support members throughout their careers and helps you to understand and meet the competence requirements for professional accreditation at the appropriate grade. Pathways has three different stages:

- **Pathway to Practitioner** – for Student and Affiliate members who want to gain Practitioner accreditation (four bulletins per year)
- **Aim for Associate** – for Practitioner members working towards Associate accreditation (four bulletins per year)
- **Move on to Member** – for Associate members working towards Member accreditation (two bulletins per year)

As a ClfA member you can sign up for access to professional pathways bulletins. The bulletins cover a wide range of topics, such as understanding professional ethics, guidance on how to deal with issues like recognising and dealing with conflicts of interest, and how to prepare for a professional review interview. You can also read about the experiences of other members as they move along their own professional pathways in the regular 'professional profiles'.

Find out more and sign up

You can find out more about the different parts of the professional pathways scheme and see some of the previous bulletins at www.archaeologists.net/join/individuals/pathway

To join professional pathways and receive the informative bulletins relevant to you, please log in to the ClfA website, go to the 'Members area' and 'My details', scroll to the mailings section and tick the Pro-Pathways box.

You can read more about the benefits of professional accreditation for you and for archaeology at www.archaeologists.net/work/profession



Practitioner (PCIfA) – on the right path:

while you have been studying, training or working you will have been closely supervised. PCIfAs will still be under supervision but this accreditation demonstrates you are able to use your own judgement and take responsibility for your own work.

PCIfA

Associate (ACIfA) – building your career portfolio:

you will have developed your knowledge, competence and confidence in your area of work. ACIfA accreditation demonstrates that you take responsibility for your work within a structured working environment and regularly deal with complex and non-routine situations.

ACIfA



Member (MCIfA) – recognising your expertise:

MCIfA accreditation is a recognition that you have achieved a high level of professional competence. MCIfAs have authoritative knowledge and depth of understanding of the sector and of a broad range of historic environment practices. You take full responsibility for your work and are confident to make decisions across a broad range of complex, technical or professional activities.

MCIfA

