

Admission Requirements for Associate Member in Fire Discipline

Candidates applying the class of Associate Member in Fire Discipline of the HKIE are required to satisfy the following:

1. Academic Requirements

Academic qualifications that meet the requirements of the Institution for the class of Associate Member are:-

- (i) a Higher Diploma accredited/recognised by the Institution relevant to the Discipline; or
- (ii) a Higher Certificate accredited/recognised by the Institution relevant to the Discipline; or
- (iii) an accredited Higher Diploma or Higher Certificate as listed in an international agreement relevant to the Discipline; or
- (iv) an engineering degree or above accredited/recognised by the HKIE or equivalent in a relevant discipline; or
- (v) Other acceptable qualifications, such as Associate Member of the HKIE in relevant disciplines, or Member Grade of Membership of the Institution of Fire Engineers (MIFireE)

Other technologist level qualifications in engineering or technology may be considered for the class of Associate Member based on an individual assessment.

2. Training/Experience Requirement

2.1 Scope of Experience

The scope of experience will include the application of the science and practice of Fire Extinction, Fire Prevention and Fire Engineering and all operations and expedients connected therewith, with the objectives of protecting people, property, and the environment from the destructive effects of fire:

Fire Science: Application of principles of fire dynamics, combustion, fire and smoke behaviour, fire growth, material properties, heat transfer, developing fire test methods and interpretation of data.

Human Psychology & Physiology: The study and application of clinical knowledge of human response to alarms, evacuation movement, timed egress analysis, effects of fire and combustion products on human beings etc.

Active Fire Protection Systems Analysis: Design and application of various types of active fire protection systems, including smoke control, stair/lift/lobby shaft pressurization, fire alert and suppression systems, developing fire test methods and analysis of data.

Passive Fire Protection Systems Analysis: Design and application of principles of building construction as they relate to fire protection, such as construction types, construction materials, interior finish, structural fire resistance, compartmentation, emergency egress and fireman access route design, places of temporary and longer-term refuge concept, smoke containment and protection of openings etc.

Law, Regulations and Standards: Knowledge of fire safety related building ordinances, codes and regulations, knowledge of fire safety related national engineering standards, legislation and litigation relating to fire safety, development of performance-based codes etc.

Fire Risk Management: Fire prevention assessment and implementation, fire safety audit, hazard assessment, risk assessment, risk communication, emergency procedures and management, facility impairment procedures, reliability studies, development of preventive maintenance strategy, command and operation of fire and rescue agencies, post-fire and arson investigation, building fire damage assessment, fire insurance etc.

It is not reasonable to expect an applicant to be fully conversant in the entire scope of experience, one must however have broad based experience and responsibility in one or more fields at the level of Associate Member, as well as a good understanding of other related aspects.

2.2 Routes of Gaining Experience

(i) Formal Training Route

2 years' training in Fire Engineering

(ii) General Experience Routes

- a. For candidates satisfying the above academic requirements of Sections 1(i), 1(iii) with Higher Diploma, and 1(v):

A minimum period of three years experience is required with a maximum exemption of one year pre-qualification experience.

- b. For candidates satisfying the above academic requirements of Sections 1(ii) and 1(iii) with Higher Certificate:

A minimum period of four years experience is required with a maximum exemption of two years pre-qualification experience for applicants who have completed apprentice training or one year exemption for applicants in cases of other pre-qualification training.

(iii) Special Route

- a. For candidates satisfying the above academic requirements of Sections 1(iv) with engineering degree or above:

A minimum period of three years of engineering experience or completion of Scheme "A" Training to Corporate Membership.

Details of the training and experience requirements are included in Section 3 and 4 of "M4 - Routes to Associate Membership".

Candidates who satisfy the above requirements will be accepted for a Paper Assessment.

3. Paper Assessment

All candidates are expected to deliver the following documentation together with their applications:

3.1 Report on Training and Experience

Details are included in Section 6 of “M4 – Routes to Associate Membership”.

3.2 Samples of Recent Works

All candidates are required to submit relevant samples of recent work.

3.3 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Record

Details are included in Section 6 and 8 of “M4 – Routes to Associate Membership”.

All documents should be the candidate’s own work and documents must be “verified” by his employer/principal who should preferably be a Corporate/Associate Member of the Institution.

All documents submitted will be treated as confidential and will be returned to the candidate after assessment. Candidates should however retain copies of all documents submitted as the Institution does not accept responsibility for any documents lost or damaged.

Applications will be assessed based on the submission to ensure that the candidates have satisfied the HKIE Competence Standard for Associate Membership in accordance with “M4 - Routes to Associate Membership”.