PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING QUALIFICATIONS FOR TEACHERS AND RESEARCHERS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Improve your career prospects
Achieve official recognition of your competence as an engineer
Enhance your professional status
Increase your influence amongst peers
Gain more credibility with students
Increase your mobility

www.engc.org.uk
PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Gaining Incorporated Engineer (IEng) or Chartered Engineer (CEng) status is just as straightforward for engineers who are teachers or researchers in HE as it is for an engineer working in industry. You’ll not only enjoy the benefits of status and recognition but also gain added credibility with your students. The more ambitious students will already have set their sights on reaching the highest standards of professionalism, to become either IEng or CEng. So there is no better way to lead by example than holding these qualifications. Can you afford not to?
WHY BECOME REGISTERED?

The titles IEng and CEng are amongst the most recognisable international engineering qualifications. These are the benefits they bring:

• **Enhanced professional status**
The letters IEng or CEng after your name carry considerable prestige and clearly mark you out as a key player in the world of engineering and technology.

• **Improved career prospects**
The award of either title demonstrates that you have experience, drive and commitment and have fulfilled the competence requirements of an internationally recognised professional standard.

• **Enhanced mobility**
Gaining professional recognition means you can achieve the equivalent status in other countries. This will make your skills more marketable in an international environment.

• **Recognition of your standing as an engineer**
The majority of engineers with IEng or CEng place such high value on this recognition that they remain registered until they retire.

• **Increased standing for your employer**
Your university or college will gain since your professional status will strengthen its reputation and make it more attractive to potential students and business partners.

• **Access to lifelong learning**
To register as IEng or CEng you will need to belong to a professional engineering institution. Membership provides access to training courses, conferences, free magazines, refereed quality technical journals and the opportunity to network regularly with other engineers. This will help you keep abreast of current developments and ensure that your teaching and research remains in line with the world of engineering your students will be working in.

Over half the staff in my section are registered as IEng or CEng, and we believe that professional engineer status gives us credibility with our industrial partners.

Richard SA Brown, C Eng, MIMMM
Bradford College
Eligibility
To register as IEng or CEng, you will need to demonstrate that you have the necessary professional competence and commitment. Competence is a mixture of knowledge, understanding, skills and values. The knowledge and understanding is exemplified by various academic qualifications at Bachelors level for IEng and Masters level for CEng.

There are a number of different ways in which you can demonstrate knowledge and understanding if you don’t have the benchmark qualifications. Full details are given in the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC), which also sets out the different competences required for IEng and CEng so you can decide which category to aim for.

See: www.engc.org.uk/ukspec

Assessment
Whatever your background, it will be your competence as an engineer working in education that leads to successful registration. Assessment is through a review of submitted documentary evidence and an interview. Your evidence can include course development, involvement in research, managing research contracts, an industrial placement, working independently on consultancy or voluntary engineering work.

Any engineering experience outside your educational role would also be relevant, for instance if you worked in an engineering-based job before moving into education. This evidence will strengthen your application, especially if you can show how your experience influences your current teaching or research.

Working in education, my IEng qualification demonstrates an important link between education and industry.

Stuart Woosnam IEng
Head of Thames Gateway College

I feel it is extremely important that those who teach undergraduates who want to become professional engineers are themselves professionally qualified. Our profession is global and CEng is recognised around the world.

Professor Helen Atkinson, FREng, CEng, FIMMM, FIMechE, University of Leicester
What next?

1. If you don’t already belong to a professional engineering institution licensed to assess candidates for registration, you will need to join one. The institution you choose is most likely to be one that relates to the engineering discipline you work in. For a full list of institutions see: www.engc.org.uk/institutions

2. Institutions are usually able to put you in touch with a mentor who will support you through the registration process. You simply document the skills and competence you have developed through your career. UK-SPEC provides examples of the kind of evidence you might require, and your chosen institution can offer further help.

3. As soon as you feel that you are able to demonstrate the required technical and personal competences, apply for assessment by your chosen institution.

To take the first steps to IEng or CEng registration go to www.engc.org.uk

“As a junior member of staff, I used the engineering registration requirements to identify gaps in my professional development which needed reinforcement to become a Chartered Engineer. I value the status greatly as it links me to a worldwide professional network which now helps me to manage a large engineering faculty.”

Dr Rob Best, CEng, FIChemE, London South Bank University