

Engineering Council Position Statement

Apprenticeship end-point assessment and the professional review

With respect to apprenticeship assessment and the process of professional registration, a balance needs to be struck to avoid un-necessary bureaucracy and duplication of recording, whilst also maintaining standards and adhering to the requirements relating to the professional review. The process requirements are set out in the Engineering Council's Regulations for Registration.

Professional engineering institutions undertake an assessment of an individual's professional (not occupational or job-specific) competence and commitment at the professional review. Assessment must be against the standards of competence and commitment for the relevant category of registration that are set out in the most recent versions of the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC) and the ICT Technician Standard.

Recognition of an apprenticeship by a professional engineering institution through approval or accreditation against the AAQA standard applies to the programme and not to the individual. Approved or accredited apprenticeships must be entered onto the Engineering Council's public course search database by the PEI(s).

Those following an approved or accredited apprenticeship should understand that they are on a pathway towards professional engineering registration and be encouraged to join the relevant professional engineering institution at the earliest opportunity. The benefits of membership will be articulated by the institution along with any associated costs. However, it is important that individuals embarking on an apprenticeship, whether or not it is approved or accredited, are not misled about the assessment outcome and its relationship with professional registration. It must be made clear that completion of an apprenticeship does not guarantee the award of a registration title. Registration depends on success at the professional review, undertaken in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Regulations for Registration.

Un-necessary bureaucracy and duplication in recording the achievement of competence and commitment should be avoided. The Engineering Council is not prescriptive about the documentation to be used for the professional review application, or the types of evidence offered or how it might be presented. Professional engineering institutions may make use of documentation that has been prepared by an individual for the purposes of their on programme (formative) or final end point (summative) apprenticeship assessment, to demonstrate that some or all the required standards for registration have been achieved. In some cases, this may mean that an individual may need to supply only a minimal amount of information in addition to that prepared for their apprenticeship assessment(s). In some cases, professional engineering institution assessors may be involved in the apprenticeship (final end point) summative assessment as well as the professional review.

Professional engineering institutions are advised to take note where a candidate for registration has not been a member of an institution during their apprenticeship journey. This precludes access to the institution's support and advice about the required standards and process, and it may make it harder to demonstrate 'commitment' as an individual will not have signed up to the institution's Code of Conduct.

Where the professional review is fully embedded in the apprenticeship end-point assessment, apprentices must be made fully aware of the impact of passing or failing one of these elements on the other element. Professional engineering institutions should encourage employers not to put the apprentice forward for professional review until the individual is ready.

Useful links

[Approval and Accreditation of Qualifications and Apprenticeships \(AAQA\)](#)

[Regulations for Registration \(RfR\)](#)

[UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence and Commitment \(UK-SPEC\)](#)

[ICT Technician Standard](#)

[Information about registration](#)