



PATHWAYS TO MEMBERSHIP

YOUR GUIDE

icaew.com/pathways

REGISTER 1

The Pathways to Membership scheme allows fully-qualified members from certain professional bodies to apply for ICAEW membership based on their experience. There is no studying or tuition involved and you can complete the requirements in your own time - wherever you are in the world.

Becoming an ICAEW member would provide you with access to numerous benefits, including career development, access to a global network, and the opportunity to relocate or gain new clients.

REGISTER AS A CANDIDATE

If you are interested, the first step is for you to [register as a Pathways candidate](#) - it's completely free and will allow you to make a submission once the window opens.

Here's our [step-by-step guide](#) to registering as a candidate. Please note - registering as a candidate doesn't commit you to an application but we do suggest you only sign up if you are planning to submit. Make sure you register at least a week before you wish to submit your application.

If you want to receive email updates and webinar invitations please [express your interest](#) as well.

PREPARE 2

Now that you've registered with us, you can start preparing for your application.

There are currently three [submission windows](#) during the year, these occur in January, May and September. During these windows, which are open on average for 10 days at a time, you can submit your application.

Below we take you through the preparation stage towards your submission.

INTRO WEBINARS

We may at times run live sessions introduce you to the Pathways route and to help you understand what is involved in the Examination of Experience. These are recorded and you can watch our [webinar on demand](#).

If you would like to receive an email informing you of any upcoming sessions or session information please [express your interest](#).

WHAT IS INVOLVED?

There are three key requirements for a successful application:

- 1 [Letter of Good Standing](#)
- 2 [Sponsor support](#)
- 3 [Examination of Experience](#)

Do take some time to explore these to make sure you can meet them and feel comfortable with them.

PREPARE 2

LETTER OF GOOD STANDING (LOG)

You must use our [Letter of Good standing template](#) or the same wording on the headed paper of your home body, which needs to be signed by you for consent and then completed and [sent to us](#) directly by your home body. If this process is not followed your application will not be accepted.

Different membership bodies have different timeframes for issuing these letters, so please check in advance to avoid disappointment. However, your LOG will definitely need to have been acquired within three months of the [submission deadline](#) (not earlier than those three months).



FIND A SPONSOR

In order to apply for the Pathways scheme, your application will also need to be supported by a sponsor. Sponsors are needed to confirm that there is no reason why you should not be accepted into ICAEW membership. Once you've found them, they will then need to fill in the [relevant form](#) no earlier than three months to the [submission deadline](#). Your sponsor will also need a LOG unless they are an ICAEW member.

Most candidates have found a sponsor amongst their colleagues, so this would be a great place to start.

WORK ON THE EXAMINATION OF EXPERIENCE (EOE)

At this point, you may have watched one of the introduction sessions. The next step is for you to attend an EoE session which will cover the questions and top tips on how to submit a successful application. [Express your interest](#) to make sure you are invited to these sessions.

The Examination of Experience is a rigorous assessment that requires you to reflect on your experience over the last five years and demonstrate your professional skills.

Here's what you need to look at before you submit your application – you can check these off as you go:

(E) = Essential
(R) = Recommended

The
[Questions](#)
(E)

The
[Template](#)
(E)

The
[Webinar](#)
(R)

At least
one [sample
script](#)
(R)

[Guidance](#)
from the
examiners
(E)

You can find all the available resources and support [here](#).

SUBMIT 3

ARE YOU READY TO SUBMIT?

At this point you should have an understanding of what you need to submit your application. If you have any questions check our [FAQs](#) or contact yennie.lui@icaew.com from our Pathways team.



SAVE THE DATES

Have a look on [our website](#) for key dates for upcoming submission windows.



SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Register as a candidate

A Letter of Good Standing from your professional body

A Signed Sponsor Form

A Letter of Good Standing from your sponsor's professional body

The Examination of Experience

The submission fee



SUBMIT

Once you have checked everything off and have registered as a candidate, you are ready to submit. Have a look at the process [here](#).

VERIFICATION

As part of our ongoing assurance checks, you will be invited to a virtual discussion as part of the application process. This is recorded and you will be asked to complete a room scan and an ID check as part of this process. Please note we also hold a discussion with Pathways Sponsors. Completion of this verification check is required to validate and complete your application. If you do not present a valid ID and consent, we cannot proceed with your application.

Chartered accountants are talented, ethical and committed professionals. ICAEW represents more than 210,000 members and students around the world. 98 of the top 100 global brands employ ICAEW Chartered Accountants.*

Founded in 1880, ICAEW has a long history of serving the public interest and we continue to work with governments, regulators and business leaders globally. And, as a world-leading improvement regulator, we supervise and monitor more than 11,000 firms, holding them, and all ICAEW members and students, to the highest standards of professional competency and conduct.

We promote inclusivity, diversity and fairness and we give talented professionals the skills and values they need to build resilient businesses, economies and societies, while ensuring our planet's resources are managed sustainably.

ICAEW is working towards becoming net zero, demonstrating our commitment to tackle climate change and supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goal 13.

ICAEW is a founding member of Chartered Accountants Worldwide (CAW), a global family that connects over 1.8m chartered accountants and students in more than 190 countries. Together, we support, develop and promote the role of chartered accountants as trusted business leaders, difference makers and advisers.

We believe that chartered accountancy can be a force for positive change. By sharing our insight, expertise and understanding we can help to create sustainable economies and a better future for all.

[charteredaccountantsworldwide.com](https://www.charteredaccountantsworldwide.com)
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* includes parent companies. Source: ICAEW member data March 2025, Interbrand, Best Global Brands 2024