

Chartered Archaeologist update: assessment of professional competence

In *TA 103*, we reported on our work to develop a standard for a Chartered Archaeologist grade. Following approval of an outline framework at the 2017 AGM, we have started work on the mechanisms for assessing professional competence. The first stage of this process is to develop criteria that outline the competence and commitment we expect of a Chartered Archaeologist and against which applications can be assessed. A draft of these criteria was issued for consultation with members in April 2018 and was the subject of much discussion and debate at the ClfA Conference in Brighton.

In addition to the criteria, we also need to develop an assessment strategy setting out which of the criteria can be assessed via a portfolio of work, and which should be covered through a professional review interview. The assessment strategy will also need to consider the process for ensuring that Chartered Archaeologists continue to maintain and develop their competence through CPD and whether there should be a requirement to be periodically revalidated.

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Both the assessment criteria and strategy will need to be supported by detailed guidance for applicants. We won't be able to develop this guidance until the first two stages have been agreed, but we will provide an outline of content, structure and presentation, seeking feedback from members on the sort of information and guidance they think is needed to support the application process.

The ClfA Board has agreed a timetable that aims to present an amended by-law and regulations, along with the documents listed above, to members for their approval (or not) at an extraordinary general meeting at the ClfA conference in 2019. There will be a programme of informal and formal consultation throughout 2018–19 and members will receive regular updates via the ClfA website and a series of dedicated ebulletins and longer discussion documents. Members are encouraged to send us feedback at any time, but here are the key dates for your diary in terms of formal consultation:

What	When	Deadline
Consultation on draft assessment criteria	Now!	15 June 2018
Consultation on draft assessment strategy	Summer 2018	1 Sept 2018
Consultation on outline guidance	Summer/Autumn 2018	1 Nov 2018
Second round consultation on the assessment of professional competence framework	Nov–Dec 2018	31 Dec 2018
Formal consultation with members on amended by-law and regulations	Jan–Feb 2019	1 March 2019
EGM papers to be circulated	March 2019	Papers to be circulated a minimum of 21 days before EGM

If your responses show that further work is needed on any of these documents, we will delay a formal vote to allow for further rounds of consultation and revision. If the proposals are approved by members, submission to the Privy Council to enable us to award the grade of Chartered Archaeologist will follow. The timescale for that stage of the process is out of our hands, but if approval is granted, there will need to be a significant implementation phase before we can start accepting applications for Chartered Archaeologist, in order to put the necessary infrastructure and guidance in place.

Send us your feedback

You can contact us by email at chartered@archaeologists.net, tweet us at #ChartArch, talk to Advisory Council members or Special Interest or Area Group committees or write a letter to Chartered Archaeologist consultation, ClfA, Power Steele Building, Wessex Hall, Whiteknights Road, Earley, Reading RG6 6DE.

chartered@archaeologists.net

www.archaeologists.net/charter/chartered_archaeologists

CIFA

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Have your say on Chartered Archaeologist proposals

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