

Chartered Project Management Surveyor (CPMS)

To become a CPMS, candidates undertake the APC (Assessment of Professional Competence), which culminates in the professional interview. It can be achieved through one of the following routes:

1. Graduate route 1 – an RICS accredited degree-level course plus two years' APC structured training and professional interview (part-time and placement year students may enrol on the APC in their final year; those undertaking an accredited postgraduate degree part time may do their APC structured training concurrently).

2. Graduate routes 2 and 3 (experienced candidates) – an RICS accredited degree plus experience. With five years of experience one year can be deducted from the normal two years APC structured training period. With ten years, no structured training is required. In both cases candidates sit a professional interview.

3. Adaptation route – for graduates with a non-RICS accredited degree, or an RICS-approved professional body membership, plus 450 study hours from an RICS accredited degree, plus ten years

of experience. No structured training is required. Candidates sit professional interview.

4. Senior professional route for those with a blend of experience – relevant academic/professional achievement and significant management/ leadership role within the profession. Candidates sit professional interview.

5. Academic route for those teaching on RICS-accredited degree courses. A portfolio of academic outputs is considered by a vetting panel. No structured training is required. Candidates sit a professional interview.

For full details of the routes to membership visit: www.rics.org

The two-year APC route is the conventional route for new graduates. This requires two years' experiential training in which the candidate gains structured training with an employer, in areas of project management identified within the RICS list of competencies.

Visit: www.rics.org to download the list.

The project management competencies are the RICS mandatory competencies (including, for example, conduct rules, ethics and professional practice; client care; communication and negotiation); the core competencies for the discipline (contract practice; managing people; procurement and tendering; programming and planning; construction technology and environmental services; leadership; project administration; project process and procedures; risk management); and three optional competencies (from commercial management of construction; development appraisals; development/ project briefs; project audit; project evaluation).

These competencies are required to be 'signed off' by an in-house supervisor when you have achieved the required number of days experience in each of these designated competencies. People interested in becoming a CPMS should contact the RICS.