

Why become a Chartered Engineer?

“Achieving Chartered status provides independent recognition that you have developed the required skills to become a well-rounded professional engineer. For many positions of significant responsibility, Chartered status is an essential requirement. This provides exciting opportunities to further progress in your career once you have successfully attained the qualification.” - *Laura Woodbyrne, Civil Engineer and Assessor / Interviewer.*

“Chartered Engineering status is awarded by Engineers Ireland at the recommendation of fellow engineers. Achieving Chartered Engineer status demonstrates that the engineer has gained peer recognition for their career at the time of achieving the status.” - *Eimear Pepper, Aeronautical Engineer and Assessor / Interviewer.*

“We as members of the public expect the highest standards of other professions and it is fair that we should hold high standards of ourselves. Our Code of Ethics tells us that members ‘are obliged to apply their skill and experience to the common good and the advancement of human welfare’. By becoming Chartered, an Engineer can take great satisfaction in demonstrating to society at large that they have been trusted with positions of responsibility, and that they are committed to ongoing professional development. “ - *Philip Healy, Chemical Engineer and Assessor / Interviewer.*

Chartered Engineer - A Career advantage worldwide

“Achieving Chartered Engineer status shows to employers that you have an interest in your career progression. It provides an opportunity for the engineer to maximise their earning potential in comparison to their non-chartered colleagues. Chartered Engineer status is transferable and recognisable across many jurisdictions and therefore provides the Chartered Engineer with close to limitless opportunities to achieve the career goals and ambitions.” - *Eimear Pepper, Aeronautical Engineer and Assessor / Interviewer.*

“Becoming Chartered provides acknowledgement of your competence as a professional engineer that can assist you in progressing in your current role as well as moving with you to future employers, new projects, different disciplines and in other countries. A Chartered Engineer with Engineers Ireland is recognised as being equivalent to some of the most respected comparable qualifications worldwide.” - *Laura Woodbyrne, Civil Engineer and Assessor / Interviewer.*

Chartered Engineer - A Mark of excellence

“Experienced Chartered Engineers are involved at all stages of the application process, so a person who successfully gains the title ‘Chartered Engineer’ can tell colleagues and employers that they have proven to an independent and objective group of professionals that they have held significant engineering responsibilities and that they are committed to knowing more today than they did yesterday. The achievement of this mark of excellence at a point in time, and ongoing continuing professional development – itself subject to audit – provides proof to colleagues, employers, and indeed the public, that they are dealing with a committed professional.” - *Philip Healy, Chemical Engineer and Assessor / Interviewer.*

When is the best time to start the process?

“I would advise starting to work towards becoming a Chartered Engineer as early as you can by becoming familiar with the competences required and ensuring you are developing each one through your experience and training. This will ensure you develop the skills of a well-rounded engineer and put you in a strong position when you are preparing your report and in your assessment interview.” - *Laura Woodbyrne, Civil Engineer and Assessor / Interviewer.*

What should a candidate focus on?

The process is detailed but it allows for the candidate to clearly demonstrate how they have achieved the required competencies of Chartered Engineer. *Assessor and interviewer Eimear Pepper, Aeronautical engineer* encourages candidates to focus on 3 key areas when it comes to the report and subsequent interview:

1. “Be prepared – Spend time on and with your report. Find examples which clearly demonstrate the competencies.
2. Practice – Treat the interview like any job interview. Be prepared to discuss your career and have lots of examples to hand.
3. Know your career – You as a candidate have an intimate knowledge of your career, the interview panel does not. Ensure that you highlight all your achievements to date both in the report and the interview.”

“Know and manage your career” - Advice from the Assessors

“Invariably, people’s personal lives and careers get busier as time goes on. I strongly encourage potential candidates to try not to fall into the trap of assuming that they will have more time to dedicate to preparing to become Chartered at some point in the future. Keeping good records of projects, experience and training from the beginning is crucial to making an application as straightforward as possible. Focus particularly on ‘what you did’ rather than ‘what the team did’
- *Laura Woodbyrne, Civil Engineer and Assessor / Interviewer.*

“The application process entails writing a detailed report and attending a professional interview. These tasks are challenging but not insurmountable, and there is always help on hand through the process, either in the detailed guidelines or in the Chartered Engineer information evenings held nationwide.” - *Philip Healy, Chemical Engineer and Assessor / Interviewer.*

“Attaining Chartered Engineer status has given me confidence”

- Recent graduate

“Achieving a Chartered accreditation is a significant milestone in an engineer’s career as it is a recognition by your peers that abilities which you have demonstrated as an engineer are of a very high standard. The process of writing the application provides the opportunity for reflection on how you have developed as an engineer and allows you to frame the impacts which you have achieved. Attaining Chartered Engineer status has given me confidence in my skills as an engineer and demonstrates to colleagues, employers and customers that I am a competent and experienced professional.”

“The process of writing the application provides the opportunity to reflect on how you have developed as an engineer and allows you to frame the impacts which you have achieved. This is very useful in developing a method for presenting your experience in a structured format which I have used in subsequent job applications and interviews.” - *Gearóid Fitzgerald, Mechanical Engineer, Finalist 2017 Chartered Engineer of the Year.*