



ADMISSIONS PATHWAYS AGREEMENT

**BETWEEN THE ASOCIACION DE INGENIEROS
PROFESIONALES DE ESPANA AND THE
ENGINEERING COUNCIL (UK)**

ADMISSIONS PATHWAYS AGREEMENT

Between

The Spanish Association of Professional Engineers (AIPE) and
the Engineering Council (UK)
together “the parties”.

To facilitate mobility of engineering professionals through streamlined Professional Registration/Membership processes.

1. PARTICIPANTS

The Spanish Association of Professional Engineers (AIPE) is an independent non-official and non-profit legal entity created by Councils, Associations and/or Official Chambers of Agricultural Engineers, Engineers from the Higher Technical School of Engineers of ICAI, Industrial Engineers, Mining Engineers, Forestry Engineers and Naval Engineers, and .Civil Engineers.

The Engineering Council was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1981 to regulate the engineering profession in the UK.

2. DEFINITIONS

Within this document, the following definitions apply:

- 2.1 “Admissions pathway” means the process of establishing the competence of an individual for independent practice in an engineering occupational role as a requirement of Professional Registration/Certification.
- 2.2 “Alternative Route” means assessment of knowledge gained through formal or non-formal learning that is not an accredited engineering education programme or recognised by the parties as equivalent to such a programme.
- 2.3 “Home Jurisdiction” means the jurisdiction in which an engineer making application under this agreement already holds Professional Registration/Certification.
- 2.4 “Host Jurisdiction” means the jurisdiction to which an engineer applies for Professional Registration/Certification under the terms of this Agreement.
- 2.5 “Professional Registration/Certification” means recognition by a Signatory or Participating Authority awarded on the basis of a demonstration of competence for independent practice through a professional review based on the competency framework UK-SPEC or the AIPE Membership Regulations.
- 2.6 “Participating Authority” means a professional engineering organisation licensed by the Engineering Council to award CEng that has ratified this agreement. A list of current Participating Authorities will be maintained by the Engineering Council and provided to AIPE This list is shown in Appendix 2.

- 2.7 Nothing in this agreement supersedes national legislation as applicable in the jurisdiction of the signatory.

3. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- 3.1 This Agreement provides for a streamlined process by which engineers with Professional Registration/Certification in their home jurisdiction in this agreement can apply for recognition in the host jurisdiction.

- 3.2 This Agreement is intended to streamline the admissions pathway in the host jurisdiction for engineers holding a Professional Registration/Registered Professional Title in the home jurisdiction. This Agreement aims to:

- minimise duplication of assessment processes
- recognise jurisdictional differences and organisational autonomy
- maintain confidence in the quality of Professional Registration/Certification decisions in both jurisdictions
- avoid restrictions on the cross-border provision of a service.

- 3.3 This Agreement covers engineers who have been admitted to any of the following Professional Registrations:

3.3.1 Professional Engineer

- AIPE Expert Professional Engineer: A Professional Engineer that has at least 16 years' professional experience, and who has achieved the level of professional competences corresponding to this category.
- AIPE Senior Professional Engineer: A Professional Engineer that has at least 8 years' professional experience, and who has achieved the level of professional competences corresponding to this category.
- Chartered Engineer (CEng)

- 3.4 Nothing in this Agreement shall apply to individual practice or malpractice disputes.

- 3.5 Engineers who have gained Professional Registration/Certification in the home jurisdiction through a mutual recognition pathway, containing exemptions from the usual assessment process are not eligible for the Admissions Pathways set out in this agreement.

4. MUTUAL RECOGNITION PROVISIONS

- 4.1 The parties agree to apply processes and criteria consistent with the Admissions Pathways set out in Appendix 1 when considering applications for Professional Registration/Certification from engineers who hold /Professional Registration/Certification in the home jurisdiction.

- 4.2 The Parties respect jurisdictional autonomy and recognise that there may be additional criteria imposed relevant to:

- 4.2.1 local jurisdictional practices, or the legislative or regulatory framework.

- 4.2.2 discipline-specific requirements of a Participating Authority.

5. DISCIPLINE AND ENFORCEMENT

- 5.1 Both Parties and all Participating Authorities will cooperate to the extent possible on disciplinary and enforcement issues.
- 5.2 An application for Professional Registration/Certification made under this Agreement must include a question requiring the applicant to disclose any sanctions related to the practice of engineering in other jurisdictions. Information regarding sanctions may be considered in the assessment process.
- 5.3 An application for Professional Registration/Certification can only be made under this Agreement if the applicant provides written permission for parties to distribute and exchange assessment information and any information regarding sanctions between all involved jurisdictions.
- 5.4 Failure to fully disclose or provide any of the required information may be the basis for denial of the application, or for sanctions, including revocation of the Professional Registration/Certification
- 5.5 Each jurisdiction will take appropriate action in accordance with their rules and regulations if an engineer violates the standards of that jurisdiction. Each jurisdiction shall promptly report sanctions to the other jurisdiction in which it knows the engineer is recognised via an appropriate alert mechanism.
- 5.6 A jurisdiction will take appropriate action, subject to its own rules and regulations and the principle of natural justice, related to a sanction that is reported to them by another jurisdiction

6. IMMIGRATION AND VISA ISSUES

- 6.1 Professional Registration/Certification granted under this Agreement in a Host Jurisdiction does not preclude the need to conform to applicable immigration and visa requirements of the Host Jurisdiction.

7. INFORMATION EXCHANGE

- 7.1 The Parties will notify each other and provide copies of any major changes in policy, criteria, procedures and programmes that might affect this Agreement.
- 7.2 The Parties will provide an annual report to each other on all applicants who have applied pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.
- 7.3 The parties will from time-to-time undertake mutual observation of processes and procedures. This shall be done routinely as part of the renewal of the agreement.

8. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 8.1 The Parties to this Agreement will at all times endeavour to agree on the interpretation and application of this Agreement and will make every attempt through co-operation and consultation to arrive at a mutually satisfactory resolution of any matter that might affect its operation.

- 8.2 The Parties may request in writing consultation with the other Party regarding any actual or proposed measure or any other matter that it considers might affect the operation or interpretation of this Agreement.

9. TERM OF AGREEMENT

- 9.1 This Agreement will come into effect when signed by the Parties.
- 9.2 This Agreement supersedes all other such mutual recognition agreements between AIPE, the Engineering Council and the Participating Authorities.
- 9.3 The Parties will review and update the Agreement and recommend changes where appropriate at least every five (5) years.

TERMINATION

- 9.4 A Party or any Participating Authority may withdraw from this Agreement six (6) months after it provides written notice of withdrawal to the other Party. If a Participating Authority withdraws, the Agreement will remain in force for the remaining Participating Authorities.
- 9.5 If at any time all Participating Authorities have withdrawn from the Agreement, the Agreement will automatically terminate.
- 9.6 Any registrant approved or in the process of being assessed at the time of the Agreement being terminated will be treated as if this Agreement is still in existence.

AIPE

Engineering Council

Date Executed:

APPENDIX 1

ADMISSIONS PATHWAYS

The Professional Registration/Certification processes of the Parties are as follows:

AIPE's requirements as the Host Jurisdiction

AIPE is the Certification Body for Professional Engineers, that grants certifications and fulfils the requirements set out by ISO 17024 for the certification of individuals.

AIPE Professional certification is the recognition of a professional engineer's competence that is granted by comparing their competence against an AIPE standard accepted and recognised by all the stakeholders involved in the practice of engineering. Re-certification is required after 4 years, demonstrating 50 hours of appropriate CPD per year according to the AIPE criteria set out in document IPR 1002.

AIPE certification is independent from the process of recognition of qualifications that must be completed by the appropriate competent authority in Spain. This is the relevant Ministry as listed in the EU Regulated Professions Database. [\(Link\)](#)

For all categories of certification, a degree in engineering equivalent to level 7 of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), or an official master's degree in engineering, is mandatory.

Standard application requirements	Required under APA Y/N	Notes
Submission of an application form	Yes	Applicants are required to submit an application form, record of CPD activities and professional dossier to the Certification Chapter.
Academic assessment/Knowledge Assessment	No	Includes candidates who have attained the standard via an alternative route. Applicants are required to provide copies of academic qualification certificates.
Competence assessment	No	
Local knowledge and discipline specific practice assessment	No	This is covered by the AIPE Professional Code (OGC 005)
Professional Review Interview	No	Any assessment of Local Knowledge or current competence may involve an interactive interview (typically by tele/video conference)
CPD review	Yes	Submission of CPD records according to AIPE policy as set out in IPR 1002.
Approval by Committee of Supervision and Guarantees	Yes	

Engineering Council requirements as the host jurisdiction

The Engineering Council was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1981 to regulate the engineering profession in the UK. The standards of professional competence and commitment are set out in the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC). This standard requires registrants to make a commitment to recording their CPD activities. Participating Authorities undertake random samples of professionally active registrants' CPD records on an annual basis.

Standard application requirements	Required under APA Y/N	Notes
Submission of an application form	Yes	In English
Academic assessment	No	Applicants are required to provide copies of academic qualifications
Holistic competence assessment	No	
Local knowledge and/or discipline specific practice assessment	Yes	Any assessment is normally to be restricted to situations where UK-specific knowledge or discipline-specific requirements are applied as standard to home candidates
Professional Review Interview	No	Any assessment of Local Knowledge or current competence may involve an interactive interview
CPD review	In line with UK Participating Authority requirements	Registrants are required to ensure their CPD records are up to date. UK Participating authorities undertake annual random samples of professionally active registrants' CPD records and provide feedback.
Registration (Professional Registration/Membership) Committee Approval	Yes	

Evidence Portfolio

A portfolio of evidence is required to support the recognition process detailed above. For applicants under this Agreement, the portfolio should initially include the following:

- Completed Application form
- Academic certificates and transcripts
- Curriculum Vitae

- Local knowledge and discipline specific practice: this may include submission of work samples and Continuing Professional Development evidencing local knowledge and discipline specific practice as advised by the Host Jurisdiction/Participating Authority
- An up-to-date CPD record in line with the Host jurisdiction/participating authority's requirements. The CPD record that has been submitted to the home institution can be submitted to the host providing that it meets the host requirements for currency and content.

In each case the portfolio content and assessment/audit process will not exceed those required of the host signatory's home registrants.

Assessment Process

On receipt of an application through this agreement, the Host Jurisdiction/Participating Authority will contact the Home Jurisdiction/Participating Authority to request confirmation of Professional Registration/Certification status, and registration/certification date.

Interactive assessments or professional review interviews will only be used if their purpose is to assess local knowledge and/or discipline specific practice.

Written assignments or formal examinations may also be valid mechanisms for assessing local knowledge or discipline specific practice if they are used for the same purpose for assessing local engineers in the host jurisdiction.

Appendix 2

List of UK Participating Authorities (subject to ratification)

1. BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT
2. British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing (BINDT)
3. Chartered Association of Building Engineers (CABE)
4. Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE)
5. Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors (CICES)
6. Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation (CIHT)
7. Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering (CIPHE)
8. Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM)
9. Energy Institute (EI)
10. Institution of Agricultural Engineers (IAgrE)
11. Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)
12. Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE)
13. Institution of Engineering Designers (IED)
14. Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)
15. Institute of Explosives Engineers (IExpE)
16. Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE)
17. Institution of Gas Engineers and Managers (IGEM)
18. Institute of Highway Engineers (IHE)
19. Institute of Healthcare Engineering and Estate Management (IHEEM)
20. Institution of Lighting Professionals (ILP)
21. Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology (IMarEST)
22. Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE)
23. Institute of Measurement and Control (InstMC)
24. Institution of Royal Engineers (InstRE)
25. Institute of Acoustics (IOA)
26. Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IOM3)
27. Institute of Physics (IOP)
28. Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine (IPEM)
29. Institution of Railway Signal Engineers (IRSE)
30. Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE)
31. Institute of Water
32. INCOSE UK, the UK Chapter of the International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE)
33. Permanent Way Institution (PWI)
34. Nuclear Institute (NI)
35. Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS)
36. Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA)
37. Safety and Reliability Society (SaRS)
38. The Society of Operations Engineers (SOE)
39. The Welding Institute

Links are found here: <https://www.engc.org.uk/peis>