

# IOP Institute of Physics

# Guidance on Responsible Experience

The following document has been written to help candidates applying for chartered status to know what is expected of them. The criteria listed below are by no means exhaustive and the Institute has a flexible attitude towards different approaches to responsibility.

**No candidate is expected to show evidence of all of these criteria.**

If you have any questions not answered by the advice here then please contact the professional standards department:  
**career.development@iop.org**

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## Summary

Your knowledge and experience must reflect a broad view of your employer and working environment. The main facets you will need to show evidence of are:

- CPD aimed at developing a deep specialism and/or broad knowledge across a physics related area;
- ability to carry out complex tasks in a fully flexible and adaptable manner;
- beginning to gain greater skills in dealing with customers/colleagues/students;
- identifying new opportunities for both your own development and that of the organisation;
- working to support the aims of your organisation and to promote it within your sector;
- starting to demonstrate leadership qualities and to take on team leader responsibilities;
- aspects of people development.

The following are ways in which the above criteria can be shown. **As before, this list is not exhaustive and no candidate is expected to be able to provide evidence in all these areas.** All candidates are expected to exhibit skills from the 'common' examples.

## General

- Leads or manages a small study, research or project team.
- Works independently.
- Identifies new opportunities and is consulted on technical, research or business plans.
- Can make appropriate use of financial / budgetary information.
- Responds to the needs of customers/colleagues/students.
- Proactive in making changes, allowing for needs for quality standards and continuous improvement.
- Encourages flexibility from others.
- Proactive in encouraging others to seek out, record and share new knowledge.
- Manages and applies safe systems of work.

## Functional

- Applies knowledge in a broad range of contexts within accepted practice and procedure.
- Offers professional advice in complex situations, maintaining professional integrity.
- Applies project management principles, identifying milestones and juggling resources.
- Works using delegation without abdicating responsibility.
- Makes reliable and consistent judgements, where there are few guidelines or precedents.
- Carries out risk assessment on projects.
- Promotes team spirit and keeps others focused on tasks ahead.

## Technical

- Applies knowledge creatively in a broad range of complex and non-routine contexts, including design and development, though still within a framework of accepted practice and procedure.
- Has a growing ability to bridge between technical areas.
- Demonstrates technical integrity in approach and ability to meet technical scrutiny.
- Oversees the technical aspects of projects, both programs and standards of work.
- Shares technical information and ensures the passing on of lessons learned.

## Academic

- Lecturing at an undergraduate level in pure and applied physics.
- Contributing to the design of post or undergraduate courses.
- Collaborating with industry and the wider physics community.
- Lecturing to peers at academic events.
- Publishing in peer-reviewed journals.

*The Institute of Physics would like to thank QinetiQ for their help in compiling this document.*