



The Royal Meteorological Society
Established 1850

Patron H.R.H. The Prince of Wales

Under Licence from the Society for the Environment

Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv)

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The Royal Meteorological Society and Professional Qualifications

The Royal Meteorological Society is the Learned and Professional Society for meteorology and closely related disciplines in the UK. The Society owns, or is the custodian for the profession within the UK of, the three internationally recognised UK professional qualifications in meteorology. These are Chartered Meteorologist (CMet), National Vocational Qualification in weather forecasting, (NVQ level 4), and National Vocational Qualification in meteorological observing (NVQ level 3).

The Society is also a founding Constituent Body of the Society for the Environment (SocEnv), empowered under Royal Charter to award the qualification Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv), and awards this qualification on behalf of SocEnv under licence.

Why Professional Qualifications?

You will probably have entered the profession with a first or postgraduate degree. Your first degree qualifications are, however, likely to be in subjects such as mathematics, physics, chemistry, geography or computer science and you are unlikely to practise for long in the area of your postgraduate degree. Your degree qualifications will normally be supported by professional training, often provided by your employer and usually of the highest standard. However, such professional training is typically not formally recognised beyond the providing organisation and is not a “transportable” qualification. It will generally not fulfil the statutory qualification requirements of, for example, other EU countries. Neither does it offer any assurance to employers or to customers that you have reached a specific level of vocational expertise or professional knowledge, that you are keeping your knowledge up-to-date and that you subscribe to a recognised professional code of conduct. By contrast, NVQs (at their relevant levels)¹ provide an internationally recognised statement of your achievement of a vocational skill set and Chartered status is evidence that you have up-to-date professional knowledge at the highest level and abide by declared professional standards.

¹ Further details of the NVQ scheme can be found at www.rmets.org

Chartered Status

In most of the leading professions the highest qualification to which a practitioner can aspire is Chartered Status, conferred through accreditation by the Learned or Professional Society or Institute which represents the profession. In the profession of meteorology and in certain closely related disciplines, accreditation as a Chartered Meteorologist (CMet) is conferred on successful candidates by the Council of the Royal Meteorological Society. However, it is recognised that some Fellows of the Society may regard Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) as a more appropriate or as an equally valuable qualification and the Council of the Society therefore holds a licence from the Society for the Environment to award this accreditation. In either case, accreditation represents a clear statement that you:

- have achieved the most demanding and rigorous standards of professional knowledge, training and support skills appropriate to your specialism(s);
- in the case of CEnv, subscribe to and observe the ethos of sustainable development;
- maintain a personal programme of continuous professional development which is independently audited and which keeps your knowledge and experience current;
- operate in your professional life to a publicly acknowledged Code of Conduct.

Once accredited, you are required to demonstrate regularly that you are maintaining your knowledge through an active programme of continuing professional development (CPD) and that you continue to subscribe to the code of conduct. Failure to satisfy the Society on either of these counts can result in the withdrawal of your accreditation.

Eligibility and Applying for Chartered Status

This folder contains all the information you will need to enable you to decide whether you are eligible to apply for Chartered status and to make an application for CEnv. Further details on CMet and NVQs can be found at www.rmets.org or can be obtained from the Chief Executive, The Royal Meteorological Society, 104 Oxford Road, Reading, RG1 7LL. Email: chiefexec@rmets.org