Professional Accreditation

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION IN METEOROLOGY: AN OVERVIEW

We have launched our new Accreditation and CPD System (ACCSYS). Members can manage their CPD online and apply for RMet Accreditation via our online system.

Go to ACCSYS [1] (for logged in members)

Aim

The aim of accreditation is to provide professional qualifications in meteorology which will satisfy clients, employers and the public at large that individuals have reached and continue to maintain a specified level of professional knowledge and experience and that they adhere to a declared code of professional conduct.

Accredited meteorologists will be looked to for high quality knowledge, experience and advice, often by those who are not specialists in the subject. It is for this reason that communication skills are explicitly required, in addition to technical expertise, proven experience and probity.

Accreditation provides a link and standards across the wider meteorological community. It benefits individuals by providing recognition of their role and skills; a framework to support career development; and provides a demonstration of commitment to their career.

The Schemes

The Society offers two professional accreditation schemes Registered Meteorologist (RMet) and Chartered Meteorologist (CMet). These schemes are hierarchical statements of professional competency and experience and are consistent in concept and scope with similar accreditations recognised in other professions. The Royal Meteorological Society is the only body able to award Registered or Chartered status for Meteorologists.

Registered Meteorologist is open to any member of the Society who meets the minimum
academic and vocational requirements for accreditation. RMet signifies to employers, customers and colleagues that the holder is a competent professional meteorologist with accredited scientific knowledge and experience. RMet confers recognition of defined standards of professional behavior through codes of conduct and Continuind Professional Development standards that are both monitored and enforced; it contributes to the benchmarking of career development pathways by capturing on the job learning alongside formal qualifications; and assists employers in recruiting and retaining the best candidates by providing assurance of scientific knowledge, competence and commitment to professionalism. Applicants who are accepted for this accreditation by the Society may then use the post-nominal RMet in their professional activities. Find out more >> [2]

**Chartered Meteorologist** is open to any Fellow of the Society who meets the requirements for Chartered status. Through more demanding codes of conduct and Continuind Professional Development standards that are both monitored and enforced, CMet provides wider recognition by demonstrating commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, scientific knowledge of meteorology as well as continuing competence and development. It benchmarks professional meteorologists at the highest level no matter in which discipline or sector they work. Applicants who are accepted for this accreditation by the Society may then use the post-nominal CMet in their professional activities. Find out more >> [3]

The schemes are progressive and typically new entrants to the profession might aspire to Registered Meteorologist and then progress to Chartered Meteorologist at a later stage. However, there is provision for those who meet the criteria to apply directly for Chartered Meteorologist.

The Society does not provide any guarantee of the quality of individual work by accredited meteorologists. Those who provide professional services on their own behalf to third parties are responsible for their own work and professional indemnity cover.

Although many professional meteorologists work in organisations with management structures and offices etc. the Society welcomes applications for RMet accreditation from individuals who work alone as meteorological consultants. In these circumstances, the requirements and procedures for the scheme may be adapted on a case-by-case basis to facilitate such applications whilst remaining within the spirit of the scheme as described here.

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**A Brief Guide to the Requirements of RMet and CMet**

| Registered Meteorologist | Chartered Meteorologist |
| Scientific background | Candidates require a fundamental knowledge of physics, chemistry, mathematics or geography to minimum university entrance qualification level. | The normal requirement is a degree (or equivalent qualification) in any science, engineering or computational subject. |

In either case, lower qualifications together with extensive practical experience may be an alternative.

| Knowledge of meteorological science and practice | Material set out in the WMO BIP-MT syllabus§ or, for example, that covered by the QCF Level 5 Diploma in Weather Forecasting (or equivalent). | Material is set out in the WMO BIP-M syllabus§ and would normally be provided by specialist university courses at first degree or higher degree level in meteorology, or equivalent professional training. |

| Experience and judgement | Depends on vocational qualifications but it is likely that around three years' experience of work as a meteorologist, or supporting meteorological services, will be necessary to demonstrate the required competencies. | A minimum of five years recent work at an appropriate professional level is normally required. |

| Competence, including an ability to communicate clearly in English | A Professional Review provides evidence of the extent to which the RMet competencies are satisfied. | At present CMet competencies are under review and a Professional Review is not currently required. |

Evidence of the ability to communicate effectively and accurately in English, both orally and in writing, is required.
Probity and willingness to abide by the code of conduct

Referees will be expected to vouch for the character and honesty of applicants. Registered and Chartered Meteorologists of the Royal Meteorological Society are expected to abide by a Code of Conduct.

Maintenance of professional currency

Registered and Chartered Meteorologists are required to maintain and develop their knowledge and skills, keeping up with the advances in the subject in general and their specialist area(s) in particular, and to steadily improve their experience and capability.


Source URL: http://www.rmets.org/our-activities/professional-accreditation

Links: