MEMBERSHIP ROUTES

IRSE///

This flowchart provides guidance on the various routes to the grades of Fellow, Member and Associate Member (for other grades click here). Full details of the requirements are contained within the Bye-Laws which are available on the IRSE website. For guidance on typical qualifications requirements and definitions of 'Superior Responsibility', 'Senior Responsibility' and 'Responsible Experience' click here.

Already a **Member** or possess the requirements for **Member**
→ **Superior Responsibility** (Typically for a period of five years)
→ **FELLOW**

Hold an engineering degree or a high level technical qualification

(click here for more details)
→ Practical training or experience in lieu of training (Typically for a period of three years)
→ Passed IRSE Professional Exam or IRSE recognised equivalent / **Senior Responsibility** (Typically for a period of seven years)
→ Current **Senior Responsibility**
→ **MEMBER**

OR

No formal qualifications but practical training or experience in lieu of training

(Typically for a period of three years)
→ Passed IRSE Professional Exam or IRSE recognised equivalent **OR** **Senior Responsibility** (Typically for a period of seven years)
→ Career development (Typically for a period of seven to ten years)
→ Current **Senior Responsibility**

Hold a primary technical qualification (click here for guide) **OR** IRSE Professional Exam
→ Practical training or experience in lieu of training (Typically for a period of three years)
→ Current **Responsible Experience**
→ **ASSOCIATE MEMBER**

OR

Hold IRSE Licence above assistant level **OR** Equivalent competency qualification recognised by Council **OR** **Responsible Experience** (Typically for a period of seven years).
→ Practical training or experience in lieu of training (Typically for a period of three years)
→ Career development (Typically for a period of five to eight years)
→ Current **Responsible Experience**

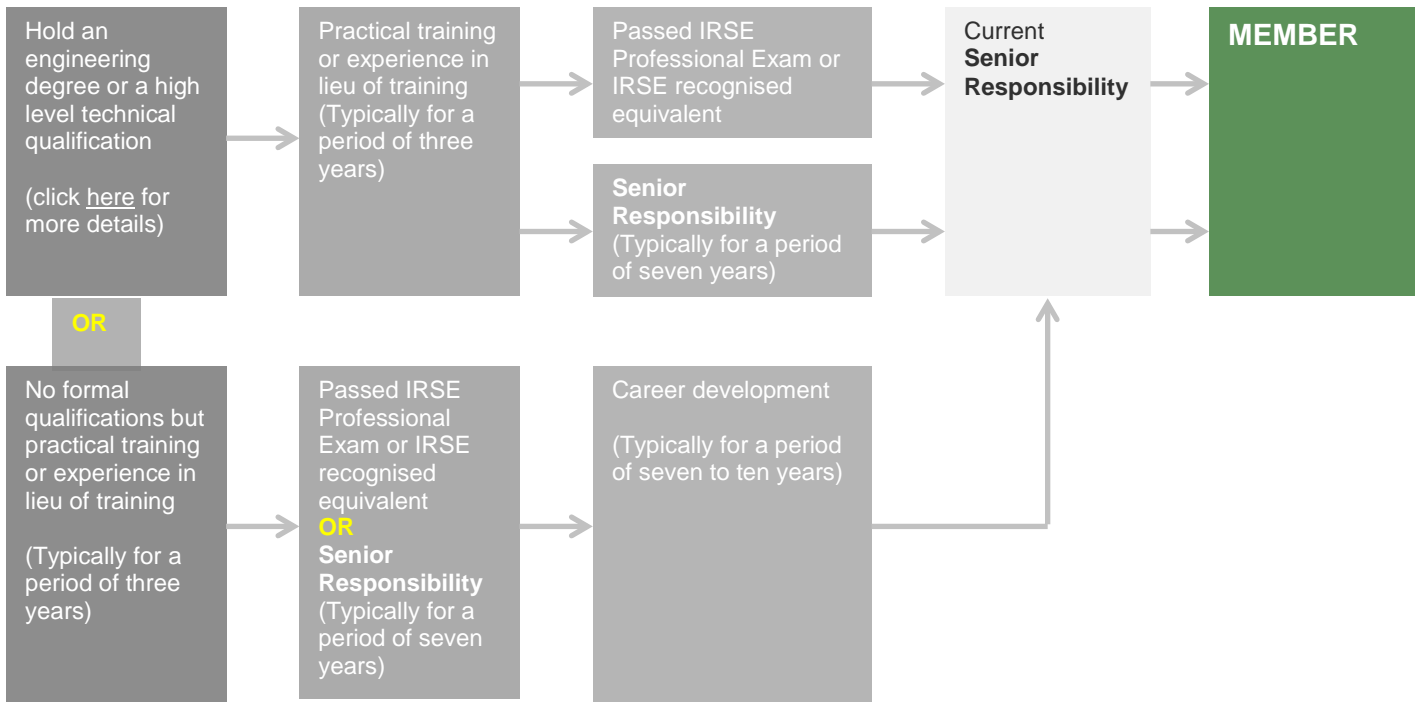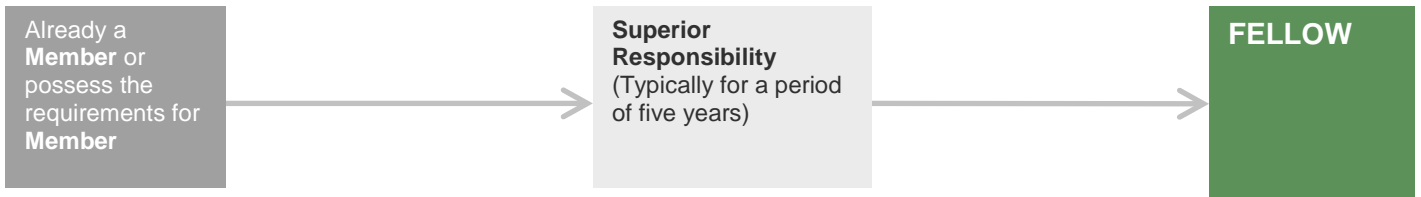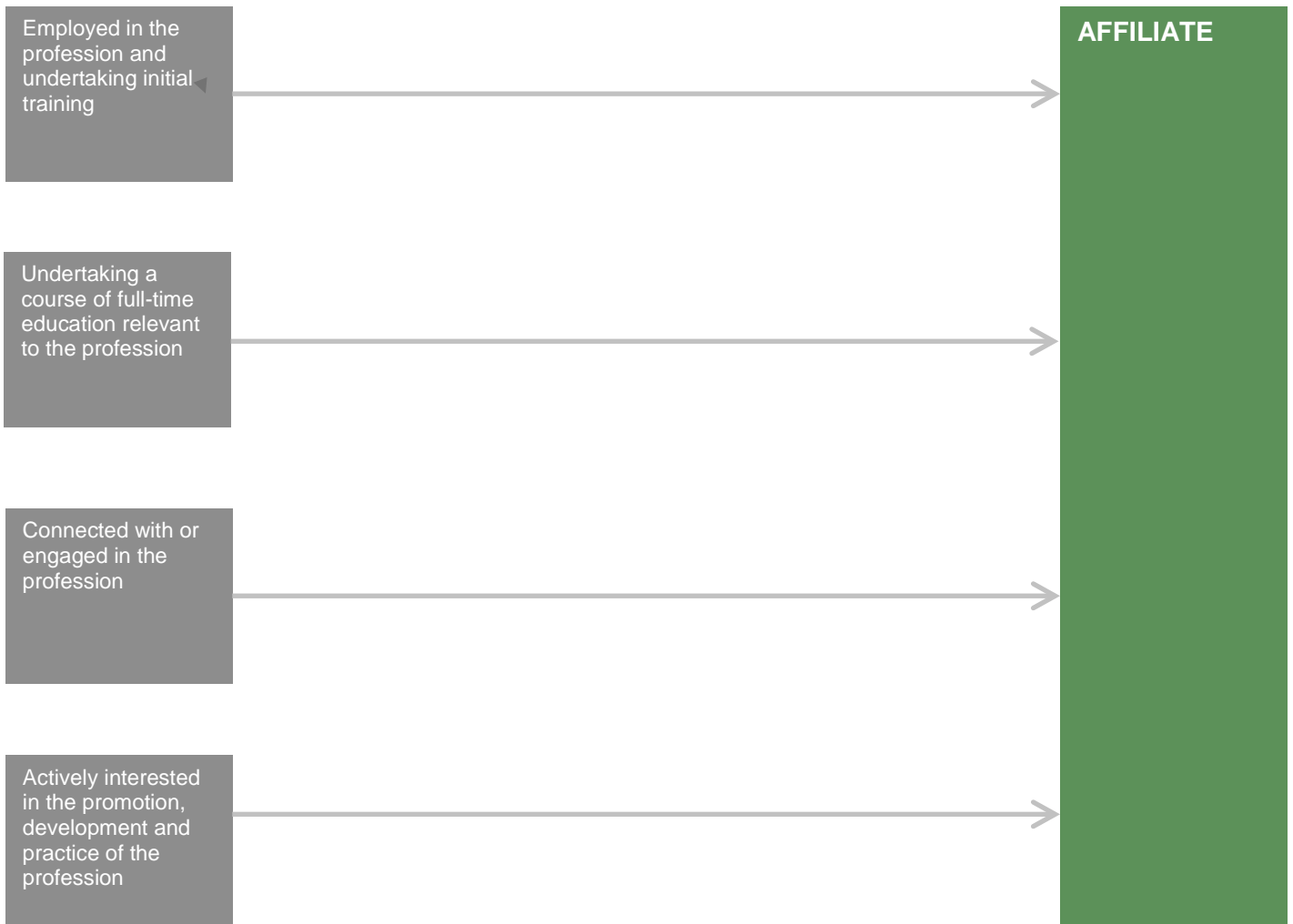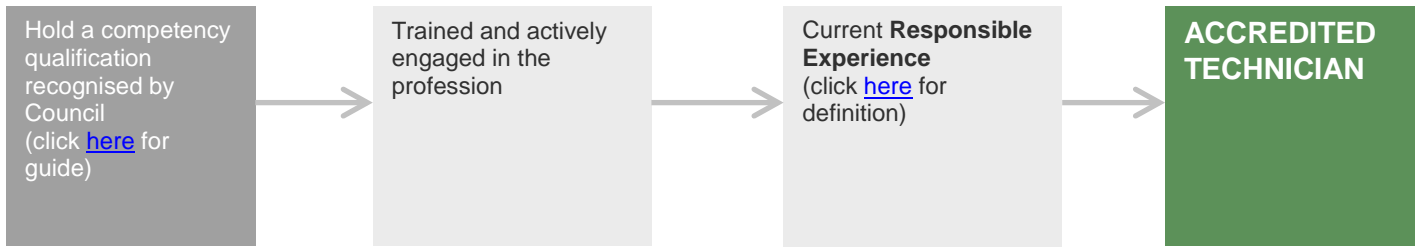## MEMBERSHIP ROUTES

This flowchart provides guidance on the routes to the grades of Accredited Technician, Affiliate and Companion. Full details of the requirements are contained within the Bye-Laws which are available on the IRSE website.

Hold a competency qualification recognised by Council (click here for guide)	→	Trained and actively engaged in the profession	→	Current **Responsible Experience** (click here for definition)	→	**ACCREDITED TECHNICIAN**

Employed in the profession and undertaking initial training						**AFFILIATE**
Undertaking a course of full-time education relevant to the profession						
Connected with or engaged in the profession						
Actively interested in the promotion, development and practice of the profession						

Eminent and associated with the profession – **(normally by Council recommendation only)**						**COMPANION**

MEMBERSHIP ROUTES

Qualifications guide

IRSE considers qualifications from around the world and below is a guide to the types we would be looking for from those applying for corporate membership grades. For those who do not hold any engineering qualifications, see Membership Route flowchart.

If you are unsure about your qualifications we will be pleased to make an individual assessment.

Membership grade	Typical Engineering / Technology qualifications
Fellow	• Masters degree • Bachelors degree • Qualifications of comparable level (typically of three years' full-time duration)
Member	• Masters degree • Bachelors degree • Qualifications of comparable level (typically of three years' full-time duration)
Associate Member	• Post-school qualifications (typically of two years' full-time/part-time duration)
Accredited Technician	• IRSE licence – Contact HQ for further details • NVQ3

Responsibility definitions

Superior Responsibility

A position of 'Superior Responsibility' is one held by someone who dictates business and/or technical policy and who has previously been in both 'Responsible' and 'Senior Responsible' positions in the railway signalling or railway telecommunications engineering field (or possibly in another engineering discipline). Such a person will usually be widely recognised as 'eminent' within the profession. He/she may be either:

- A senior manager in a railway signalling or telecommunications business
  or
- Recognised as an industry-wide expert in a particular field of railway signalling or telecommunications engineering.

A person with 'Superior Responsibility' is expected to exhibit leadership, vision and strategy within the profession by advancing the science of railway signalling and telecommunications, promoting the professional development of individuals and furthering the objectives of the Institution.

Senior Responsibility

A person in a position of 'Senior Responsibility' takes more significant engineering decisions affecting technical and organisational output. He/she will typically be making decisions at the level of a project or an area of activity. He/she will variously engage in technical and commercial management and possess effective inter-personal skills for dealing with customers, suppliers and colleagues.

Usually, such a person will have fulfilled a Responsible position in the railway signalling or railway telecommunications engineering field (or possibly in another engineering discipline), and will now be giving guidance to those in Responsible positions.

Responsible Experience

A 'Responsible' position is one entailing the exercise of professional engineering judgement in the field of railway signalling or telecommunications. This may include any of the following areas of work:

- Research, feasibility studies and options evaluation
- System, hardware or software development and manufacture
- Applications engineering and/or data preparation
- Verification, validation, testing or conformance assessment
- Installation and commissioning
- Maintenance and servicing
- Definition and interpretation of standards, rules and regulations

A person in a 'Responsible' position is typically making decisions about an individual deliverable, such as a document, a design or a test.