

# IFE Qualification Guidance

## Qualification definition

A qualification is an official record which provides evidence that you have completed a course and/or exam and have received the certificate of achievement from a recognised Awarding Organisation.

Qualifications should be recorded in the academic qualifications section of an application.

## Training definition

Training is described as the process of learning the skills you need to carry out a particular job or activity. Training can involve being taught by a teacher or self-development through various means to improve your skills and knowledge. This can be self-guided study; workplace shadowing; on the job training; or a specific workshop/webinar/conference that you have been to that may not result in a qualification but has still enhanced your learning. Training should be recorded as part of your CPD record and should be recorded on an ongoing basis and uploaded to the CPD section of the application.

## Transcript of modules

Most qualifications will include a supplementary sheet which contains the units or modules covered in the qualification and the number of associated credits obtained. The credits will assist you in deciding which membership grade is most appropriate for you.

*Example supplementary sheet:*

Credit Achievement			
Unit Title	Unit Code	Credit(s)	Level
Principles of Health and Safety in the Workplace	M/507/0533	14	Six

### Levels for the different grades of membership

For each level of membership, you are required to hold varying levels of qualifications in relevant fire related subjects. The IFE recognises certain industry specific qualifications to meet the minimum level of qualification. The table below shows the minimum level of qualification required at each grade of membership. The IFE also holds a list of specific qualifications which have been assessed as meeting the academic criteria for IFE membership. These can be seen below in the last column.

<b>Grade of Membership</b>	<b>Minimum level of qualification</b>	<b>Other qualifications assessed as meeting criteria</b>
Affiliate	No qualifications required	
Student	Must be studying relevant fire related qualification	
Technician (TIFireE)	IFE Level 3 Certificate  Other fire-related Level 3 qualification with minimum of 13 credits  EngTech registration  IFE Recognised Educational Programme for TIFireE	NEBOSH Fire Safety and Risk Management Certificate
Graduate (GIFireE)	IFE Level 3 Diploma  Other fire related QCF Level 3 qualification with minimum of 37 credits  IFE Recognised Educational Programme for GIFireE	UK Station Officer exams  NVQ Level 3 Emergency Fire Services – Operations in the Community  Level 4 Fire Safety – Fire Auditors
Associate (AIFireE)	IFE Level 4 Diploma  Other fire related QCF Level 4	LABC Validation Certificate  Level 4 CFPA Europe Diploma (2016



	qualification with minimum of 37 credits  IFE Recognised Educational Programme for MIFireE	onwards)  CMIOSH  Level 4 Fire Safety – Fire Inspectors
Member (MIFireE)	IFE Level 4 Diploma  Other fire-related QCF Level 4 qualification with minimum of 37 credits  IFE Recognised Educational Programme for MIFireE	LABC Validation Certificate  Level 4 CFPA Europe Diploma (2016 onwards)  CMIOSH  Level 4 Fire Safety – Fire Inspectors

### Table of qualifications

The different levels of qualification required to meet each IFE membership grade are based on the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) and Scottish Qualifications and Credit Framework (SQCF). The table below shows the different types of qualifications and their levels.

QCF level	SQCF level			
8	12	Professor, Doctorate – PhD		
7	11	Master’s Degree – MA, MSc, MPhil, MEng		
6	9/10	University Degree – BA, BSc BEng		
5	8		Foundation Degree – FdA, FdSc	HND
4	7			L4 Certificate
3	6	A Level	L3 Extended Diploma	L3 Diploma L3 Certificate
2	5	GCSE	L2 Diploma	
1	4		L1 Diploma	

### Scottish framework

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) has 12 levels. The different levels indicate the level of difficulty of a particular qualification. These are shown as a comparison in the table above.

### International qualifications

There are many relevant international qualifications around the world which may meet the academic criteria for graded membership. In order to determine if your qualification meets the academic criteria you may wish to compare your qualification to UK standards. You can contact UK NARIC <https://www.naric.org.uk/naric/> in order to find out information about your qualification in comparison to UK qualifications. If your international qualification holds credits and levels then you may be able to compare your qualification using the tables above.

### Combining qualifications / cumulative effect

The IFE can accept a combination of qualifications in order to meet the academic criteria for membership grades. For example, you could hold a Level 3 Certificate in Leadership and combine it with a Level 3 Certificate in Fire Safety (Fire Auditors). If you meet the minimum of 13 credits at Level 3 then you may be considered for Technician (TIFireE) grade.

### Technical report route information

You can apply for MIFireE or GIFireE via the Technical Report Route if you have the required experience but do not hold relevant academic qualifications. For GIFireE you will be required to hold a minimum of 4 years' experience and for MIFireE 15 years' experience.

Please refer to the Technical Report guidance [here](#) for more information on the process. If you wish to submit an application for membership through the technical report route then please contact the Membership and Registration Team at [membership@ife.org.uk](mailto:membership@ife.org.uk).

Technical report route applications unfortunately are not available through our online applications portal.