

## Admissions Criteria for Fellowship

Fellowship is CIOL's highest level of professional membership. A Fellow is a role model and ambassador for the language professions, demonstrating a commitment to promoting and sharing the highest standards. Fellowship recognises advanced professional standing, distinction as a linguist and/or a distinguished service to languages. A high level of linguistic competence in more than one foreign language is an essential requirement. The award of Fellowship is not intended to confer status, but to confirm it.

In considering applications for Fellowship, the CIOL Applications Committee will have regard to:

- appropriate qualifications
- work experience – specifically seniority and level of responsibility
- evidence of professional standing and other relevant achievements

There are two routes to Fellowship:

- Upgrade from MCIL – you will normally have been a full CIOL Member for at least five years
- Direct entry – you will have at least ten years work experience at a senior level

## All Fellowship applicants

### Qualifications

You should hold one or more of the following:

- IoLET Diploma in Translation (level 7)
- IoLET Diploma in Public Service Interpreting (level 6)
- IoLET Diploma in Police Interpreting (level 6)
- A recognised qualification (in a modern language or languages combined with another subject) at UK degree or postgraduate level (level 6 or above) (or international equivalent e.g. Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) level C1 or C2 or the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) level 6 or higher)

Please refer to the 'List of acceptable qualifications' document for further detail including an explanation of the levels.

## Work experience

**Upgrading from MCIL:** you will normally have been a full CIOL Member for at least five years. You will need to evidence career progression since the date of your admission.

**Direct entry Fellowship:** you must have at least ten years work experience at a senior level, using your foreign language skills. You are required to provide details of your professional practice to date.

In both cases a CV will be accepted; please ensure you detail the level at which you work (or have worked) and your areas of responsibility.

## Professional standing

Applicants are invited to submit a statement (on the official form provided available from [www.ciol.org.uk](http://www.ciol.org.uk)) which illustrates your professional standing and distinction as a linguist. You can include information on any or all of the following:

- original published works
- activity undertaken that supports the aims of CIOL, either within the Institute or elsewhere
- professional contributions beyond the scope of your position/role
- evidence of your commitment to advancing, promoting and sharing the highest standards in the language profession

In addition, applicants are invited to provide an account of **relevant achievements** in one or more of the following areas:

1. **Education:** proven academic reputation and/or substantive contributions to materials or examination development and/or subject leadership and curricular development in one or more institutions and/or international activity involving languages
2. **Business and Commerce, the Professions, Government (national and local):** responsibility, specialist knowledge, achievement, and the regular use of language skills in a professional context
3. **Interpreting:** professional seniority or responsibility evidenced by the level, quality and extent of interpreting work undertaken, in various circumstances
4. **Translating:** professional seniority or responsibility evidenced by the level, quality and extent of translation undertaken and/or published work

5. **Specialist language services:** professional level attained in your specific area of work such as language consultancy, lexicography, terminology management and other areas of language work not covered by points 1–4 above

## General notes

1. The conditions for Fellowship are laid down in the Rules, which are agreed at the CIOL Annual General Meeting. Any changes to the Rules will be published on [www.ciol.org.uk](http://www.ciol.org.uk)
2. Applications for admission or upgrade must be made on the official application form available from [www.ciol.org.uk](http://www.ciol.org.uk)
3. Applicants are strongly advised to read the Guidance for Applicants, also available at [www.ciol.org.uk](http://www.ciol.org.uk) before completing their application or upgrade
4. All applications/upgrades must be accompanied by an assessment fee of £25.00 which is non-refundable
5. All Fellowship applications and upgrades are automatically referred to the CIOL's Applications Committee which meet regularly throughout the year
6. Fellowship will be effective from the date the applicant is notified
7. On confirmation of admission/upgrade you will be invited to pay the appropriate membership fee which will be pro-rated if you join or upgrade part-way through the membership year. The membership year runs from 1 September to 31 August. For details of the current annual fees please visit [www.ciol.org.uk](http://www.ciol.org.uk)
8. Once membership has been awarded you will be agreeing to observe the provisions of the Charter and By-laws, the Rules and the Code of Professional Conduct and other such regulations as may be made from time to time. Copies available from [www.ciol.org.uk](http://www.ciol.org.uk)
9. Whilst in membership, you will be entitled to use the post-nominals FCIL
10. In all cases, CIOL's decision is final