

Frequently Asked Questions: RICS and IPF Membership

*Intended for: Prospective Students, Current Students and Alumni of the
MSc Real Estate Economics and Finance (REEF) Programme*

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- **How can I become a member of RICS (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) as an MSc REEF student, as an MSc REEF graduate, or as an MSc REEF alumni?**

If you are studying the MSc REEF (part-time or full time) you can become a student member. This is free of charge. For an application form and benefits you can visit RICS' web site, http://www.rics.org/becoming_a_member/student_membership.html, or email or call the contact centre (email: contactrics@rics.org; phone 0870 333 1600).

Once you have completed the RICS accredited course (MSc REEF) and you are in full time surveying employment you can then start your APC (Assessment of Professional Competence) on a fast-track basis.

The APC is the RICS two year structured training programme. The APC is completed whilst in relevant surveying employment. During your training period you will be developing your skills and competence levels to practice as a chartered surveyor. Towards the end of the two year period you will be subject to a final assessment. Upon successful completion of APC you will be eligible to practice and call yourself a chartered surveyor and use the designation MRICS. For more information again you can visit RICS' website:

http://www.rics.org/careers/practice_qualifications/about_apc.shtml

You may also want to email or call the contact centre: contactrics@rics.org; phone 0870 333 1600.

- **What is the RICS about? What are the Benefits?**

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors - RICS - is one of the most respected and high profile global 'standards and membership' organisations for professionals involved in land, valuation, real estate, construction and environmental issues.

Accountable to both members and the public, RICS has four main roles:

- * To maintain the highest standards of education and training
- * To protect consumers through strict regulation of ethics and standards
- * To advise global organisations, such as governments and regional boards
- * To publish market information and research.

Professional recognition is one of the most important and valued aspects of RICS membership. The letters after your name are a mark of your professionalism worldwide. But there are also many other reasons for membership, some more widely known than others. The following benefits are provided by RICS for its members:

- * Unrivalled professional credibility
- * Specialist professional support

- * A higher profile and status
- * Information and advice
- * Influence with policy makers
- * Networking opportunities
- * Discounted services and products

For further information, see http://www.rics.org/about_us/about_rics/ or phone 0870 333 1600 or email contactrics@rics.org.

- **How can I become a member of IPF (Investment Property Forum) as an MSc REEF student, as an MSc REEF graduate, or as an MSc REEF alumni?**

The IPF recognizes the MSc REEF as “providing relevant skills necessary for those operating in the property investment market”. Graduates of the MSc REEF will be offered membership of the Forum. However, the graduate should have a minimum of two years relevant experience in the property investment industry before becoming a member. (This could be part time while the graduates are studying). This amounts to fast track membership compared to IPF’s standard provisions. For further details see: http://www.ipf.org.uk/servlet.cgi?page_id=57 or contact the IPF directly (phone: +44 (0) 20 7334 3799; email: ipfoffice@ipf.org.uk or pjohnson@ipf.org.uk)

- **What is IPF about? What are the Benefits?**

Set up in 1988, the Investment Property Forum (IPF) is now recognised as one of the leading specialist property industry bodies in the UK. It comprises an influential network of senior professionals all active in the property investment market. Individuals join because the Forum remains focused, proactive and makes a difference.

The strength of the organisation lies in its diversity of members of over 1500, which includes investment agents, fund managers, bankers, lawyers, researchers, academics, actuaries and other related professionals. It operates in London, Scotland, the Midlands and the North West.

The IPF’s mission is to improve the awareness, understanding and efficiency of property as an investment for members and others in the wider business community by:

- * Undertaking research and special projects;
- * Providing education; and
- * Encouraging discussion and debate.

Its focus is to:

- * improve the awareness of the investment characteristics of property;
- * promote innovation and best practice in the property investment market;
- * support initiatives that enhance liquidity and efficiency of property as an investment class; * and offer the membership quality services.

Members of the IPF get exclusive access to web content

- * Interactive Membership Directory
- * Download pdf of the Membership Directory.
- * Book for a member only event.
- * Exclusive access to research reports.

See www.ipf.org.uk for further details.