

Accreditation of Higher Education Programmes

Appeals Procedure

Applications for IChemE accreditation of higher education programmes will be processed in accordance with the guidelines approved by the Education Subcommittee. Where an application for accreditation is unsuccessful, the Higher Education Institution (hereafter referred to as 'HEI') may within 28 days of receiving the notice thereof, appeal against the decision by giving written notice thereof to the Chairman of the Education Subcommittee.

An appeal may only be made on the grounds of administrative, procedural or other irregularity in the handling of the application and the notice of the appeal shall state the grounds relied upon.

The appeal shall be referred to IChemE Membership and Qualifications Committee which shall as soon as possible establish an Appeals Committee of no fewer than three Chartered Members to investigate the matter. No members of the Appeals Committee shall be a member of the Education Subcommittee, employed by or connected with (eg as adviser, consultant or examiner) the HEI concerned, or shall have otherwise have been concerned with the HEI or the application at an earlier stage.

The Chief Executive Officer shall cause a person (who may be a member of the Institution's staff but not involved in Higher Education programme accreditation activities) to act as clerk to the Appeals Committee.

Subject to the By-laws, the Appeals Committee shall have the power to regulate its own practices and procedure and may appoint a practising barrister or solicitor to sit with it for the purpose of advising it as to the manner in which it should exercise its functions.

The Appeals Committee shall notify the appellant HEI and the Accreditation Committee of the practice and procedure adopted by the Appeals Committee but in all respects its proceedings shall be conducted and a decision reached in accordance with natural justice.

The Appeals Committee shall set a date for the hearing of the appeal as soon as possible and shall give reasonable notice (not being less than 28 days) of such hearing to the appellant. The appellant shall at their own expense have the following rights in respect of the hearing:

1. To submit to the Appeals Committee evidence in writing in support of the appeal; and
2. To attend the hearing in person and to be heard in person through their solicitor or counsel or other representative.

For the purpose of considering any appeal the Appeals Committee will examine all relevant documentation and shall make such enquiries (by correspondence or otherwise) of such persons as the Appeals Committee may in its absolute discretion think fit.

The Appeals Committee shall reach a decision within a reasonable time and may:

1. Allow the appeal and in such case refer the application back to the Education Subcommittee for reassessment;
2. Dismiss the appeal.

The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be notified in writing to the Membership and Qualifications Committee, Board of Trustees, Engineering Council, the Education Subcommittee and the appellant.