



engineering
new zealand
te ao rangahau

CREDENTIAL CHECKS

PROCESS, TIMING AND COST

STEP ONE

[Create an account](#) or use your existing login with Engineering New Zealand to access your member portal.

STEP TWO

Add your credentials to your account, including **evidence** for each credential.

To add credentials, go to: *Menu > Career > Credentials > Qualifications/Other credentials*

What's verification?

Each of your credentials can be verified in the following ways:

- Using [Qualification Check](#) – our approved external verification partner will verify the credentials you provide.
- Our membership team can verify credentials directly online if you provide links to digital documents on relevant university or professional registration authority websites.
- Send your original documents from the awarding body directly to Engineering New Zealand in a sealed envelope.
- If you already have an NZQA assessment report, it can be used as your 'verifier' document if you provide it.

Verification of your identity is also required. Qualification Check will perform this verification. You'll need your passport, a smartphone and sufficient light to take a clear image of your face.

Already verified your identity through another provider? [Email us](#) your verification.

What counts as evidence?

Qualifications

This includes graduation or award certificates and academic transcripts or marksheets – together with an academic transcript or marksheets showing courses, subjects or units studied and the results gained in each.

Where qualifications are not in English, you must upload copies of both the original language document and an English translation. The documents must be translated by a professional translator with the name and contact details of the translator provided on the English language version.

If your current name is different to the one on your original documents, or if different spellings of your name are used across your documentation, you must upload evidence of your name change.

Mutual recognition

This includes registration on an international register (IntPE, APEC Engineer, IntET, IntETn), or competence-based membership/registration/license with an overseas engineering body, which Engineering New Zealand has a [bilateral agreement](#) with.

Equivalent knowledge

Assessments completed with Engineering New Zealand, Engineers Australia (CDR Assessment outcome) or NCEES (USA) Assessment (Fundamentals of Engineering & the Professional Engineer exam).

STEP THREE

Request a [credential check](#).

Credential check fees

Credential checks are free for financial members of Engineering New Zealand, including any fees associated with verifying your credentials and undergoing ID verification.

[Find out about our membership options](#)

Fees for students and non-members can be found [here](#).

STEP FOUR

Our membership team will determine whether your verified qualification/assessment/overseas registration status is formally [recognised](#) under an Accord, or if you demonstrate engineering knowledge equivalent to an Accord-accredited qualification.

Credential checks typically take 7 – 10 working days.

You'll receive one of the following outcomes:

- Washington Accord/Washington Accord recognition
- Sydney Accord/Sydney Accord recognition
- Dublin Accord/Dublin Accord recognition
- No recognition

[Read more about equivalence](#)

STEP FIVE

Once the credential check is complete, the membership team will be in touch with the outcome. You'll either be assigned an Accord recognition status to your profile, or you'll receive an email outlining what to do next.

HOW WE EVALUATE QUALIFICATIONS AND CREDENTIALS DURING A CREDENTIAL CHECK

Our membership team is responsible for credential checks. Qualifications and credentials are evaluated as follows:

Qualifications

- **Qualifications obtained from New Zealand** institutions are evaluated against our list of [accredited engineering qualifications](#).
- **Qualifications obtained outside of New Zealand** are evaluated against the International Engineering Alliance's list of [Accord Signatories](#).

Credentials for mutual recognition

- **Registration** on an international register (IntPE, APEC Engineer, IntET, IntETn).
- **Competence-based** membership/registration/license with an overseas engineering body with which we have a bilateral agreement.

Recognised assessments

- **A recognised assessment** from Engineering New Zealand, Engineers Australia or NCEES (USA) (both the Fundamentals of Engineering exam and the Professional Engineer exam) are accepted as demonstrating Washington Accord equivalence.

A note on immigration

If you're applying for a visa using points allocated under Immigration New Zealand's Long-Term Skills Shortage initiative, you need to demonstrate you are eligible to register as a Chartered Professional Engineer (CPEng).

To do this, the wording in the Long-Term Skills Shortage List specifies: *'A qualification at NZQF Level 7 or higher, with a letter from Engineering New Zealand certifying that the degree and any further learning meet the benchmark requirements towards Chartered Professional Engineer professional status in New Zealand'*.

In order to successfully complete a Washington Accord credential check, you need to have a qualification/assessment/overseas registration that is formally recognised under the Washington Accord, or demonstrates engineering knowledge that is equivalent to a Washington Accord-accredited qualification.

CREDENTIAL CHECKS

PROCESS GUIDANCE FOR APPLICANTS

INTRODUCTION

What is a credential check?

A **credential check** is the process of verifying and assessing your engineering qualifications or credentials.

Who needs a credential check?

You may need a credential check for:

- immigration New Zealand visa applications
- registration as a Chartered Professional Engineer
- registration as a Chartered Member of Engineering New Zealand
 - Chartered Member
 - Chartered Member (Engineering Technician)
 - Chartered Member (Engineering Technologist)
 - Chartered Member (Professional Engineering Geologist)
- Electrical Workers Registration Board (EWRB) registration assessment
- a potential employer or education provider.

What is involved in a credential check?

During our credential check process, we assess your engineering credentials or qualifications against the Washington, Sydney, and Dublin Accords – global engineering education standards. To work as an engineer in New Zealand and/or achieve Chartered status, you need to meet these standards.

WASHINGTON, SYDNEY, AND DUBLIN ACCORDS EXPLAINED

What is an Accord?

An Accord is an official arrangement where countries or groups reach an agreement. Involved parties conform and consent to shared standards.

What are the Washington, Sydney and Dublin Accords?

The Washington, Sydney and Dublin Accords are international agreements that benchmark the educational base for entry to the profession as an engineer, engineering technologist or engineering technician.

The signatories of the Washington, Sydney and Dublin Accords have developed agreed statements of engineering graduate attributes. The Accords are multi-lateral agreements between bodies in a range of countries, who are responsible for accreditation or recognition of tertiary-level engineering qualifications.

- **The Washington Accord** is an international agreement between bodies responsible for accrediting engineering degree programmes.
- **The Dublin Accord** is an international agreement establishing the required educational base for engineering technicians.
- **The Sydney Accord** is an international agreement between bodies responsible for accrediting engineering technology academic programmes.

A key benefit for holders of Accord-recognised qualifications is that the quality of these engineering education programmes is recognised internationally.

What if my qualification is not Accord recognised?

If the outcome of your credential check is that you do not meet an Accord status – please do not worry. If you're applying for immigration or to be a Chartered Professional Engineer, you can do a [knowledge assessment](#) to demonstrate equivalency.

[Find out more about knowledge assessments](#)

If you want to be a Chartered Member (Technician), Chartered Member (Technologist) or Chartered Member (Engineering Geologist) you can proceed directly to these assessments, as they are not dependent on Washington Accord recognition or equivalency.

What's an equivalent knowledge assessment?

This is where you can demonstrate engineering knowledge that is equivalent to a Washington Accord accredited qualification through your academic study, work experience and further learning.

If this is the case for you, you will be given further guidance by our assessment team on what your next steps are.

IMMIGRATION

Why are credential checks needed for overseas engineers?

Credential checks are crucial for some overseas engineers looking to immigrate to New Zealand.

If you are migrating to New Zealand to work as an engineer under the Long-Term Skills Shortage programme, Immigration New Zealand needs to be sure your credentials are acceptable.

During your immigration process, Immigration New Zealand may ask you to provide a letter from Engineering New Zealand certifying you meet the benchmark requirements for Chartered Professional Engineer status in New Zealand. To provide this letter, you will need to go through our credential check process and prove Washington Accord accreditation or equivalency.

Our credential check process will confirm whether your qualification is recognised in New Zealand.

[More detail on immigration and working in New Zealand](#)

CHARTERSHIP

Why are credential checks needed for New Zealand-based engineers seeking registration as a Chartered Member or a Chartered Professional Engineer (CPEng)?

If you are an engineer currently living and working in New Zealand and want to become a Chartered Member or a Chartered Professional Engineer (CPEng), the credential check process is the first step in recognising your eligibility. We do a credential check to confirm your engineering qualification.

[More detail on becoming a Chartered Professional Engineer](#)

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

1. Check if your qualification is on the [List of Accredited Qualifications](#). If it is, proceed directly to the credential check (follow the credential check steps below).
2. If your qualification isn't on the [List of Accredited Qualifications](#), check if your qualification is from a Dublin, Sydney or Washington Accord signatory. [To do this, see our List of Accord Signatories](#).

If your qualification is from a country that is a signatory to one of the Accords, proceed directly to the credential check.
3. If your qualification is **NOT** on the List of Accredited Qualifications or the List of Accord Signatories, **AND** you need to show Washington Accord equivalency, please follow the directions in Figure 1 below.
4. If you are a technician, technologist or engineering geologist and your qualification is **NOT** on the List of Accredited Qualifications, or the List of Accord Signatories, please proceed to our Chartered Membership process.

PATHWAYS TO DEMONSTRATING ELIGIBILITY FOR WASHINGTON ACCORD (FIGURE 1)

To ensure you don't pay for an unnecessary credential check, we publish and maintain accurate [lists of accepted qualifications, assessments, and registrations](#) needed to obtain a successful credential check for Accord status.

This allows you to decide which pathway you need to choose to successfully demonstrate that you meet the knowledge requirements towards Washington Accord recognition (or equivalency) or registration as a Chartered Professional Engineer.

Figure 1

