Changes to the categories of membership

Reasons for change

Council first asked the Admissions Committee to look at the categories of membership in 2010. The Committee had carried out a survey of associates and found that there were a number of barriers which were stopping them from applying for Qualified Membership. As a result, Council asked the Committee to look at whether our current categories of membership were appropriate and whether any changes should be made.

After much debate, it was decided that the associate category did not cater very well for the different groups of people who made up the category. The Council and the Committee have worked together over the last 12 months to create a new set of categories designed to better suit and support our members.

Aims

The Council and the Admissions Committee decided on the following aims:

- To ensure that our categories are ‘fit for purpose’ - that they provide targeted support, training opportunities and benefits.
- To help ITI better fulfil its aim of being the organisation for professionals at any stage in their career.
- To encourage Associates to apply for MITI
- To create ‘stepping stones’ from student to MITI to help members starting out in the industry to work towards becoming an MITI.
- To capitalise on any work ITI does to recruit students and new members by having a clear progression between the categories

It was decided that, in order to achieve these aims, the categories needed to mirror the career path of professionals in our industry. Research was also carried out to ensure that the new category structure would fall in line with those of other professional organisations.

Advantages

There are a number of key advantages associated with the implementation of the new category structure for both applicants and members. Firstly, applicants will be able to see clearly and quickly which category of membership they should apply for. Furthermore, having career-progression categories will allow the implementation of a CPD and relevant qualification system which draws members through the categories by showing them what they need to do to achieve the next step. Lastly, it is hoped that the new category structure could be an opportunity to provide members with better value-for-money. For example, the new structure will allow the creation of category-specific and category-appropriate benefits to enhance the value of membership, such as MITI/FITI-only specialist CPD events.

What about associates?

The associate category became an old category on 30th April 2013. Between now and 1st December 2013, all associates will need to move to one of the new categories. However, there is a special offer for any associate who moves to the new AITI category or to MITI. (Please see the last page for details.)
Requirements for each category

The requirements for the new categories are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fellow – FITI</td>
<td>As now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- At least 10 years experience in translation or interpreting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- A significant contribution to the Institute or profession</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Recommendation from fellow translators/interpreters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualified – MITI</td>
<td>As now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- at least 3 years experience</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- at least 2 professional references for translation or interpreting plus a character reference</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- a pass in the examination or interview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate – AITI</td>
<td>As per old AITI category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- at least 1 year of experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- at least 2 professional references for translation or interpreting plus a character reference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career Affiliate</td>
<td>One professional reference (not necessarily translation/interpreting) plus a character reference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Affiliate</td>
<td>- Graduation from a degree or post-graduate course in translation or interpreting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- A reference from their university tutor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Membership in this category is up to 2 years after graduation (then to following April)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>As now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Attendance on a degree or post-graduate course in translation or interpreting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As is the case currently, all applicants will be required to provide a signed copy of the Code of Conduct. The ‘Supporter’ requirements will be the same as those of the new ‘Career Affiliate’ category.

Conclusion

We hope that you will be excited about this new change to your organisation. We hope that this will be an opportunity to provide better support to all of our members as they progress in their career and to provide clarity to clients about our membership grades.

Re-launch of the Academic category

The launch of the new categories has been accompanied by a re-launch of the Academic category for lecturers of translation and interpreting.

We feel that it is important that the people who are training future translators and interpreters have their own category of membership to indicate their importance to the industry.

The requirements for Academic membership are:

Eligibility – At least 2 years current employment as a teacher at a university or institution of tertiary education

Qualifications – A post-graduate degree in translation, interpreting or foreign languages

Experience – Evidence of published research in translation or interpreting in the last 5 years
- Evidence of continuous professional development (CPD) in the last 3 years

References* – Recommendations regarding ability and good reputation

Application packs can be downloaded from the members’ area of the website.
Institute of Translation & Interpreting

Current associates – your options

**Option 1 – Apply for Qualified Membership (MITI)**

- Download the application pack from the members’ area of the website.

Qualified membership costs £222 per year. However, as a special offer, members in the old associate category who apply for MITI before 1st December 2013 will not pay any additional subscription fee for the membership year 2013/14.

This is a **saving of up to £130** – the earlier you apply, the greater the saving.

**Option 2 – Apply for Associate (AITI)**

- Download the reference form from the members’ area of the website.

Associate (AITI) membership costs £140 per year. However, as a special offer, members in the old associate category who apply for AITI before 1st December 2013 will not pay any additional subscription fee for the membership year 2013/14.

This is a **saving of up to £48** – the earlier you apply, the greater the saving.

**Option 3 – Move to Career Affiliate**

- Just send us an email stating that you wish to move to the Career Affiliate category.

Career Affiliate membership costs £92 per year so there is **no additional fee** to pay.

**Option 4 – Move to Graduate Affiliate**

- Just send us a scan or copy of your certificate to demonstrate that you have graduated from an appropriate course with an email stating that you wish to move to the Graduate Affiliate category.

Graduate Affiliate membership costs £92 per year so there is **no additional fee** to pay.

**Option 5 – Move to Supporter**

- Just send us an email stating that you wish to move to the Supporter category.

Supporter membership costs £92 per year so there is no additional fee to pay.

**Please note:** All associates need to choose an option and make their move by 1st December 2013