

The Concrete Society
MCS and FCS Qualifying Grades

Introducing the Concrete Society MCS and FCS Qualifying Grades

Member of the Concrete Society (MCS) and Fellow of the Concrete Society (FCS) designatory letters recognise **knowledge** and **experience** in the concrete industry.

Members of the Society are invited to apply for the qualifying grades which enable members to demonstrate that they have significant knowledge and experience of concrete. Members who qualify for these grades are presented with an official certificate and are entitled to use the letters MCS or FCS after their name. Importantly MCS and FCS qualifying grades do not signify the award or receipt of qualifications from the Society.

The Benefits of MCS and FCS Status

Providing recognition to a person for what they have learned and applied within their occupation is a way of recognizing their contribution to a specific industry. Many experienced individuals do not have any formal qualifications but the skills and knowledge they have acquired over the years still merits official recognition. Similarly, those with formal qualifications also deserve recognition for the contribution they make.

The intent and purpose of awarding the designatory letters MCS and FCS is to allow all those experienced practitioners who work and contribute daily to the concrete industry, as defined in the 'relevant fields' contained in the Rules and Requirements of the Scheme, can gain recognition for their acquired skills and knowledge following a strict, systematic programme of assessment against a framework of standards by an independent body of concrete practitioners and academics.

How does the scheme operate?

How do I apply?

Applications for Member or Fellow grade should be submitted on the appropriate application form(s) together with proof of qualifications and/ or summary of experience. Full payment must be received before applications can be considered.

Who can apply?

The scheme is open to any member in any of the Society membership categories who complies with the qualifying requirements. Applications will be considered by an independent panel of concrete practitioners and academics appointed by The Concrete Society Council.

When do I apply?

Applications may be made at any time.

What is the cost?

There is a “once-only” fee of £60 + Vat for the Member grade and £100 + Vat for the Fellow grade. The fee must accompany the application and will be part refundable if unsuccessful. Designatory letters can only be used by fully paid up members of The Concrete Society and cannot be used once their membership has lapsed. If membership has lapsed for a period of more than 6 months, the process to obtain MCS/FCS status must be repeated.

Entry/transfer fees will be payable for dealing with applications and for the issuing of certificates (an administrative fee of £35 will be retained for unsuccessful applications).

How to pay?

Payments can be made by cheque, payable to *The Concrete Society Ltd*
By BACS: *The Concrete Society Ltd*, 40-44-39, 11484354, HSBC
Credit card, tel: 01276 607148

Requirements and Rules of Member and Fellow Grade Scheme

Member (MCS)

Persons entitled to use the designation MCS shall:

- i. be a current member of the Society in one of the Society's membership categories
- ii. be at least 25 years of age
- iii. have at least five years experience including significant involvement with concrete in one or more of the relevant fields*

or,

- iv. hold an approved degree or membership of an approved institution and, after qualifying, have at least three years experience including significant involvement with concrete, in one or more of the relevant fields,

"Approved degree" means a first degree of a UK University or College approved for the granting of degrees in any of the relevant fields and similar non-UK degrees at the discretion of the Panel.

"Approved Institution" means members of the Council of Engineering Institutions in the relevant fields, the RIBA, the Institute of Concrete Technology and similar bodies in the relevant fields at the discretion of the Panel.
The term "relevant fields" is defined below.

Fellow (FCS)

Persons entitled to use the designation FCS shall:

- i. be a current member of the Society in one of the Society's membership categories
- ii. be at least 35 years of age
- iii. have at least ten years experience of concrete in one or more of the relevant fields, including management of organizations concerned with concrete and hold or have held for at least four years what, in the opinion of the Panel, is an important position of independent responsibility together with having acquired such a degree of eminence as the Panel deems appropriate.

or,

- iv. have made a major contribution to the work of The Concrete Society which, in the opinion of the Panel, has added significantly to the advancement of concrete, or the spread of advancement of concrete, or the spread of knowledge in concrete, or the development of The Concrete Society in pursuit of its objectives.

***These are the fields covered by the Society's interests and represented on the Council viz:**

- Architecture
- Engineering design etc
- Contracting – relating to concrete
- Materials – concrete and its constituent materials (including reinforcing materials)
- Education, training and research – related to concrete and its constituent materials
- Plant and equipment – related to concrete
- Precast concrete
- Other construction interests – allied to concrete (including the use of concrete as an artistic medium such as sculpture)

Applications for Member or Fellow Grades should be submitted on the appropriate application forms (available from the Society) together with proof of qualifications (where appropriate) and summary of experience.

Applications for the Fellow Grade should be supported by three referees, at least one of whom shall be a senior representative of the industry.

All applications and the outcome of applications, will be considered and reviewed by an assessment panel appointed by The Concrete Society Council. Successful applicants agree to be placed on a register held by the Society and displayed on the Society's website containing their name, registration number, MCS/FCS status and in which area they have contributed to the concrete industry.