



IMarEST Fellow Standard Guidance



IMarEST FELLOW STANDARD GUIDANCE

Fellowship of the IMarEST is the highest level of membership, awarded to individuals who have demonstrated sustained, high-level achievements in marine-related engineering, science, or technology. This typically reflects a period of at least five years of impactful contributions, although exceptional circumstances may warrant earlier recognition.

Fellowship acknowledges leadership, influence, and impact across the marine sector, whether through organisational leadership, professional engagement, giving back, or outstanding research and innovation. Our Fellows are our IMarEST ambassadors who help inspire the next generation of marine professionals and members.

This peer-reviewed process acknowledges and confirms your success, offering the opportunity for you to connect and collaborate with the renowned fellowship community.

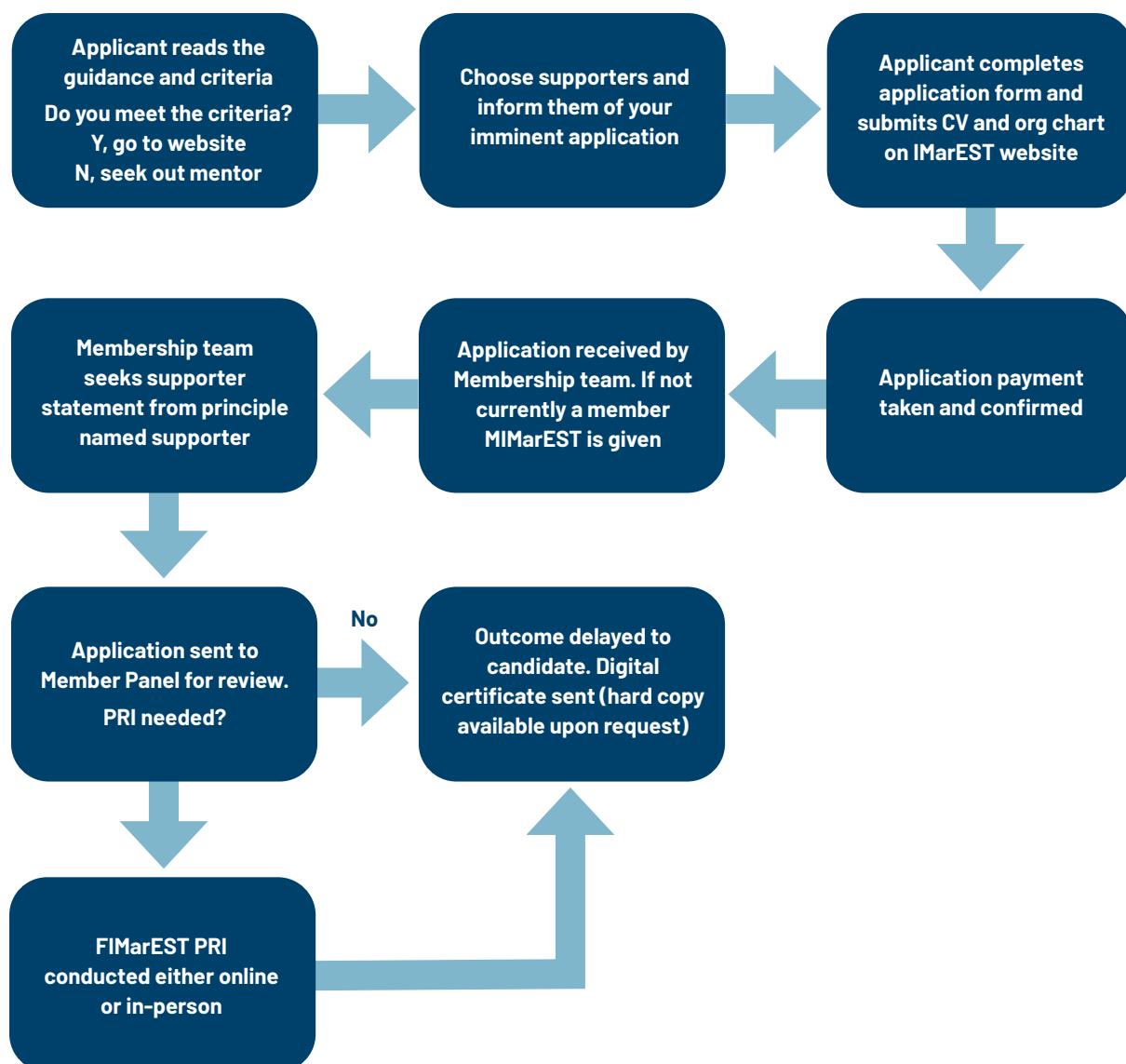
We welcome applications for Fellowship both from those newly joining us or from those current members wishing to upgrade their membership grade.

These guidelines will help you pull together everything you need for your fellowship application. Please read them carefully before starting the online application form and contact us on membership@imarest.org if you have any questions.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must provide evidence of significant personal achievements in two to three of the Fellowship criteria areas listed below. There is no minimum time limit, but applicants must demonstrate marine-related experience and impact in engineering, science, or technology. Evidence should reflect leadership, influence, impact and contribution to the profession.

PROCESS



KEY CRITERIA AREAS

Applicants should select two to three areas that best demonstrate their case for Fellowship. Each area should be supported by clear, specific examples of personal impact. **The total word count for all evidence within the application form must not exceed 1500 words.**



Innovation

Delivery of novel technologies, systems, or processes with measurable impact.

Examples of innovation could include:

- Refining energy efficiency
- Led development of improved propulsion systems and control of autonomous ships.
- Introduced new composite materials for hull construction.
- Delivered patented underwater inspection UAVs to market.
- Published results in journals and presented at marine technology expos.
- Granted patents for novel ballast water treatment technologies.
- Led development of AI-based navigation systems for autonomous ships.

Leadership

Strategic direction, organisational transformation, or sector-wide influence.

Examples of leadership could include:

- Directed strategic transformation of a marine sector firm
- Represented organisation at IMO and international marine forums
- Accountable for global fleet maintenance and compliance
- Championed professional development across marine engineering teams
- Led investigations into vessel incidents and implemented safety reforms
- Enabled significant cost savings and safety improvements in offshore operations
- Leading national campaigns or media initiatives to raise awareness of marine issues and influence public behaviour or policy
- Overseeing a major organisational change to improve research output, collaboration, and funding success, such as in a marine research institute

Research

Original contributions to marine knowledge, including publications, patents, or funded projects.

Examples of research could include:

- Principal author of peer-reviewed papers on marine related work
- Lead investigator on funded research into marine and maritime related engineering, science or technologies
- Supervised doctoral research on oceanographic instrumentation.

Business Development

Creation or growth of marine-related enterprises or business units.

Examples of business development could include:

- Founded a marine consultancy delivering vessel efficiency audits
- Developed a business unit focused on offshore renewable energy solutions
- Secured venture funding for a startup producing smart buoy systems
- Served clients in shipping, offshore oil & gas, and marine conservation sectors
- Recognised by maritime industry bodies for business innovation
- Business development initiatives which have brought about efficiency (financial, work practices, environmental etc).

Development of Others

Mentoring, coaching, or enabling professional growth within the marine sector.

Examples of development of others could include:

- Supervised doctoral research on oceanographic instrumentation
- Championed professional development across marine engineering, science, and/or technology teams
- Mentored early-career professionals in marine sectors, including for professional registration.

Insight & Experience

Consultancy, technical expertise, or operational leadership in complex marine environments.

Examples of insight and experience could include:

- Provided consultancy to international ports on dredging strategies
- Managed technical teams for subsea cable installations
- Held budget responsibility for multi-million-pound marine projects
- Advised government agencies on marine pollution mitigation
- Influenced operational standards in maritime logistics
- Incident investigation.

Influence & Contribution

Outreach, advocacy, or promotion of marine science and engineering to wider society.

Examples of influence and contribution could include:

- Promoted STEM careers through marine-themed training programmes
- Developed public exhibitions on ocean technology
- Advanced marine sustainability through engineering innovation
- Mentored early-career professionals in marine sectors
- Demonstrated IMarEST values in global marine initiatives
- Delivered keynote at international marine engineering conferences
- Sustained volunteering for IMarEST as a Professional Review Interviewer, branch representative, Council and other volunteering roles
- Driving diversity and inclusion in marine practice by launching initiatives to improve representation and equity within marine organisations.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit

- A completed Fellow Criteria Statement (maximum 1500 words total)
- Curriculum vitae/resume
- Organogram/organisation chart of your current employment

Please note there is no requirement for degree certificates or CPD statements unless you are also applying for a level of professional registration.

Our application form is hosted on our website in a saveable format meaning you can either complete the form in one go or save and revisit to suit you.

SUPPORTERS

Applicants must be supported by the following professional referees:

- Ideally one IMarEST Fellow, or
- One Fellow from another similar professional body or
- Two Members (MIMarEST)

PROFESSIONAL REVIEW INTERVIEW (PRI)

Purpose of the Interview

Not all candidates will need a PRI. It is typically requested when either your written application does not fully demonstrate the required competencies, or if additional clarification is needed on your strategic impact, senior responsibilities, or professional achievements.

The PRI is designed to:

- Confirm that you meet the competence and commitment standards required for Fellowship
- Provide an opportunity for you to demonstrate your skills against your chosen criteria to the marine profession
- Clarify any aspects of your application that require further evidence or explanation.

What to Expect

The PRI is either a virtual or in-person meeting lasting 45–60 minutes. Usually the panel will be two or more IMarEST Fellows, experienced in assessing Fellowship applications.

The interviewers will want to gather more evidence for your Fellowship application. Some potential focus areas for them could be:

- Leadership and influence - how you have shaped policy, strategy, or advanced the profession
- Professional standing - evidence of recognition by peers, industry, or academia.
- Ethics and commitment: Your adherence to professional codes and contribution to sustainability
- Continuing Professional Development (CPD) - how you maintain and enhance your knowledge.

How to Prepare

Here are some tips for preparing for your PRI:

- Review your application - be ready to expand on your achievements and responsibilities
- Evidence of impact - prepare examples of projects, publications, or initiatives that demonstrate strategic influence
- Know the Fellowship criteria - familiarise yourself with IMarEST's Fellowship standards and competencies
- Reflect on your career journey - be prepared to discuss how your experience aligns with the marine profession's future needs.

During the Interview

- Be clear and concise - focus on outcomes and your role in achieving them.
- Provide context - explain the significance of your work and its impact on the industry or society.
- Show commitment - highlight your involvement in mentoring, knowledge sharing, or professional bodies.

After the Interview

The panel will submit a recommendation to the Membership Committee. You will be informed of the outcome and any next steps.

CONTACT DETAILS

If you would like further information about Fellowship or have any questions about the application process please email us at membership@imarest.org



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