



# New Zealand Institute of Surveyors

## Policy Statement

### Admission as a Registered Professional Surveyor

Policy Number	Version Number	Date	Author	Next Review
5.5	2	03.2015	Hadyn Smith	03.2017

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## Purpose

The objective of this policy is to maintain a basis for the use of the distinction of Registered Professional Surveyor by Council (RPSurv).

## Definition

The Registered Professional Surveyor (RPSurv.) Distinction is conferred at Council's discretion on a Member who meets the following criteria:

- is academically qualified.
- is competent in spatial measurement and three other surveying related disciplines.
- has advanced competence in some recognised areas of surveying.
- has advanced competence to work with integrity and a high degree of professionalism and ethical behaviour.
- is committed to the application, maintenance and on-going enhancement of these criteria.
- can demonstrate conduct and achievement of these criteria for a period of not less than three years since achievement of NZIS Member status

### **Academically Qualified means:**

having a BSurv (Otago) or equivalent.

### **Competent in spatial measurement and three other recognised areas of surveying means:**

having passed the Institute's Professional Entrance examinations or considered equivalent by Council under Sec 2.3

### **Advanced Competence means:**

being able to prove advanced competence in at least two areas from the list below, and can demonstrate a high level of professionalism

- Cadastral surveying
- Mining surveying
- Hydrographic surveying
- Geodetic surveying
- Urban design
- Subdivision engineering
- Resource management and planning
- Photogrammetry
- Remote sensing
- Geographic (spatial) Information Systems
- Engineering surveying
- Project management
- Other relevant expertise

### **Professionalism and ethical behaviour means:**

competent to demonstrate professionalism and professional conduct through understanding and performance of the following characteristics:

- Personal integrity
- Fidelity and honesty



- Capability awareness
- Continued education
- Respect of the Profession
  - Good business practice, including:
  - Clear and maintained conditions of engagement
  - Communication
  - Conflict of interest awareness
  - Respect for others work and business
  - Impartiality in the management of contracts

## Applications

Applications for the distinction shall include the following:

- Copy of qualifications held by the applicant (BSurv. etc).
- A written statement of the competence achieved in the required disciplines. Full details of experience and responsibility must be provided as competence will be assessed on depth of experience and levels of responsibility.
- A written synopsis of the three years' experience at advanced competence level in the selected disciplines. Detailed descriptions of the complexities of relevant projects must be provided in order to show applicants have a thorough understanding of their disciplines.
- A written analysis of their actions and conduct over this period related both to specific projects and wider activities demonstrating professionalism and ethical behaviour. Detailed descriptions that illustrate ethical and professional conduct must be provided to demonstrate awareness of the high ideals required for conferment of this distinction.
- Evidence of CPD undertaken over the preceding two years.
- Names and contact details of two appropriate referees who can attest to the competence and professionalism of the applicant.
- Applications may be supported by appropriate plans, documents and images etc that relate specifically to the demonstration of achievement of competence, ethical behaviour or professionalism required for the conferment of this distinction. Refer appendix 1.
- Applications are required to be on the appropriate form and be accompanied by the appropriate fee. All required documents listed here and supporting information should be in electronic form only. Acceptable formats are MSWord, PDF, JPG or TIFF and should be supplied on CD or DVD.
- The application fee for Registered Professional Surveyor will be over and above the normal annual subscription payable for membership of the NZIS.

## Use of Title

The distinction of Registered Professional Surveyor is conferred only on individuals. The Members who rightfully claim the distinction need to exercise care in the use of the term in promoting their organisation so as to not mislead about the nature of what they are and what they provide.



## Application Renewals

As the distinction is valid for 1 year, all holders are required to re-apply annually.

An application will be renewed provided the holder has achieved the required level of CPD, payment of the annual fee is received before 1 July of the next financial year and there are no grounds under Sec 5 to refuse renewal.

Renewal forms will be posted to holders together with their NZIS membership forms.

## Non-renewal

In order to protect the integrity of the distinction it is proposed that the following may be, but are not limited to, grounds for non-renewal:

- Being subject to a written complaint to the National Manager in any previous 2 year period (whether upheld or not). These complaints could be from NZIS members or any other person
- The up-holding of a complaint by the NZIS Council
- Being subject to disciplinary action by the Cadastral Surveyors Licensing Board
- Convicted of any offence, that may be derogatory to the profession of surveying or the reputation of the NZIS and is punishable by imprisonment.
- Non-compliance with current CPD policy

The default stand-down period is a minimum of 2 years, which would be determined by the NZIS Council, and there is no automatic right that any re-application will be granted. All such cases will be subject to final approval by NZIS Council.

## Re-Applications

Registered Professional Surveyors who have let their distinction lapse for a period of less than 3 years may re-apply under Sec 4.0.

This allows a Member some latitude for overseas travel etc (i.e. allowing for 2 years travelling etc and then sufficient time to obtain the CPD points.

## Disciplinary Action

Any Member who claims the distinction of Registered Professional Surveyor without proper authority will be deemed to be in Breach of the Rules (section 23) and subject to disciplinary action under Part IV of the Rules.



## Appendix: Guidance Notes for Registered Professional Surveyor Applicants

### Assessment of Applications:

These are currently assessed under old Rule 5 (specifically 5.1.1) and Policy A10 (as adopted in December 2009). Council moved in June 2013 that all pre-May 2013 rules would become policy until such time as the rules are amended and approved by Council.

### Old Rule 5 DISTINCTIONS AND AWARDS

#### 5.1 Distinctions:

The Council may confer such distinctions and prizes as it considers appropriate from time to time. A list of such distinctions and prizes together with the conditions pertaining thereto shall be published from time to time in an official Institute publication.

#### 5.1.1 Registered Professional Surveyor:

The Institute may confer the title Registered Professional Surveyor upon a Member or Fellow whom the Council considers meets the requirements of the applicable policy, as defined from time to time by the Council, and may permit the use of a Council approved Trade Mark associated with it. On ceasing to be a Member or Fellow, all rights, privileges and responsibilities relating to this designation shall be relinquished. 5.1.2

### Guidance Notes:

- Council will assess the variety of work and the levels of complexity of projects undertaken by applicants. A good discussion and demonstration of these are required. This includes a full description of responsibilities and roles held during the conduct of project.
- Applications should contain the necessary detailed descriptions of the complexities of relevant projects in order to show a thorough understanding of the selected disciplines. This requires a broad reflective statement of how applicants see their competence in these fields.
- Additionally, each application is assessed for comprehensive understanding of the professional and ethical behaviour as outlined in the Institutes Code of Ethics and Rules.
- Generally applicants should be able to demonstrate advanced competency and professionalism in at least three specialist areas. This will vary with different applicants.



- Applications should include supplementary information such as reports, plans and published papers for reference and to support that they have achieved an advanced level of competency.
- It is recommended to include a statement about those times/projects during their careers when applicants have faced particular difficulties. These often provide the best examples of when advanced competencies and professionalism are needed and applied and when they are stretched in their actions.

Footnote: The PRSurv distinction is subject to a Council review in 2015.

