

# ROYAL AIR FORCE (RAF) CAREER BREAKPOINTS

Institution of  
**MECHANICAL  
ENGINEERS**

**Mapping of the Royal Air Force career breakpoints and qualifications against Institution of Mechanical Engineers threshold criteria for membership and Engineering Council (EngC) registration.**

RAF Engineer Officer			
RAF career breakpoints	IMechE membership	EngC Registration	Notes
On entry holding MEng/BEng (Hons)/BEng or equivalent	Associate Member		Satisfies academic requirement for IEng registration in full. Degrees accredited for CEng registration, in full or in part, satisfy academic base requirements for full IEng registration
Completion of first technical appointment.	Member (MIMechE)	Full IEng registration	Applicants need to demonstrate a minimum of a Bachelor's (Ordinary) degree in engineering, or equivalent i.e. a qualification deemed equivalent to a pass degree in engineering.

## RAF Engineer Officer

RAF career breakpoints	IMechE membership	EngC Registration	Notes
Completion of second technical appointment as an engineering officer.	Member (MIMechE)	Full CEng registration	Can only be awarded at this career 'milestone' to those holding academic qualifications, or equivalent, in full for CEng registration and on successfully passing the IMechE Professional Review Interview (PRI) **
On promotion to Wing Commander RAF	Fellow (FIMechE)	Full CEng registration	

### RAF Engineer Officer notes

\* RAF Engineer Officers who do not hold a minimum of Bachelor's (Ordinary) in engineering on entry will need to apply as an individual case for Academic Review or complete a Career Learning Assessment (CLA).

\*\* RAF Engineer Officers who hold an MEng degree, or a BEng (Honours) degree accredited for Chartered Engineer registration [which they started prior to September 1999], already satisfy the academic qualification requirement, in full, for CEng registration and will not need to make up any academic shortfall. RAF Engineer Officers who do not hold an MEng degree or a BEng (Honours) degree accredited for Chartered Engineer registration will need to apply as an individual case for assessment of their academic qualifications, or equivalent, by the IMechE Academic Assessment Committee (AAC).

## RAF Aircraftman

RAF career breakpoints	IMechE membership	EngC Registration	Notes
RAF Aircraftmen on promotion to AS1(T) and on completion of the advanced apprenticeship or successful completion of a suitable Level 3 qualification.	Member (MIMechE)	Full EngTech registration	The award of OH1 qualification immediately follows successful completion of the Engineering Advanced Apprenticeship Programme, which has been approved for Engineering Technician registration in full. Some trade groups do not complete the OH1 qualification so an acceptable alternative is successful completion of a suitable (i.e. technical) Level 3 qualification
Substantive Flight Sergeants and Warrant Officers plus Chief Technicians holding specific roles.	Member (MIMechE)	Full IEng registration	Applicants would need to demonstrate a minimum of Bachelor's (Ordinary) degree in engineering, or equivalent i.e. a qualification deemed equivalent to a pass degree in engineering, to meet the academic requirement for IEng**.

### RAF Aircraftman notes

\* \*This RAF career break point applies to personnel in Trade Groups 1, 5 and 13 - all part of the engineering profession.

\*\* RAF senior engineer non-commissioned officers who do not satisfy the academic qualification requirement, in full, for IEng registration will need to apply as an individual case for assessment of their academic qualifications through Academic Review, or apply for Career Learning Assessment.