



**Memorandum of Mutual Recognition of
Membership between General Practice Division
and its RICS Counterpart**

Guide to Applicants

**General Practice Division
The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
May 2020**

Memorandum of Mutual Recognition of Membership (MMRM) between General Practice Division (GPD) and its RICS Counterpart

Guide to Applicants

1. Background

1.1 The MMRM was signed on 8 March 2018. Eligible corporate members of RICS qualified through the Valuation pathway (including those previously under the classification of the RICS General Practice Division) may apply for corporate membership in GPD.

1.2 According to the MMRM, a professional interview would be conducted at the discretion of the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) to verify the applicant's competence and suitability for admission to the GPD.

2. Application Procedures

2.1 GPD accepts applications at any time, and would arrange interviews upon receiving appropriate number of eligible applications.

2.2 An eligible applicant should complete the application form for membership, which requires signatures from 4 Corporate Members of GPD (consisting of at least one Fellow). The application form, along with the relevant application fee, should be submitted to the Membership Department of HKIS.

2.3 After applying, the eligible applicant will first be requested to provide a written submission (of about 1,000 words), giving a brief account of the applicant's past professional work experience and key projects. The report should demonstrate the applicant's post-qualification professional practice of not less than one year in Hong Kong relevant to GPD.

2.4 If the minimum local experience could be demonstrated, the eligible applicant will then be invited to attend a professional interview (for a duration of about one hour) in the presence of an assessment panel, comprising a chairman and two panel assessors.

2.5 The professional interviews will normally cover questions on valuation, current market affairs and land policies affecting property development in Hong Kong, and issues on professional ethics. Applicants should be reminded that valuation and understanding of development control are considered as core competence of the general practice surveying profession. Knowledge of valuation principles and of the land system in Hong Kong is expected.

2.6 If the assessment panels are satisfied with the competence and suitability of the eligible applicants, their applications will be submitted to the Board of Membership and General Council for formal endorsement.

2.7 According to clause 2.8.2 of the HKIS Bye-Laws, in case an application for admission as a member is rejected, the Board of Membership shall not be required to give any reason for the rejection. Any such applicant not admitted may not again submit an application for admission as a member until 12 calendar months shall have elapsed from the date the application was rejected.

3. Eligibility

3.1 For the avoidance of doubt, all along, it is the intention of GPD to only accept applicants who obtained their RICS qualifications through the normal APC route.

3.2 Given the terminology currently adopted by the RICS in eligible requirements and for the purpose of this guideline to applicants, normal APC route shall mean the APC route with relevant periods of structured training. Applicants who attained their inaugural RICS qualification through pathways other than the Valuation pathway, or without relevant periods of structured training, will be refused.

3.3 GPD reserves the rights to reinforce the admission requirements as and when necessary.

**General Practice Division
The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
Endorsed on 8 May 2020**