



Professional pathways April 2023 bulletin Pathway to practitioner

Welcome to this edition of Professional pathways. Previous bulletins can be found on the [Professional pathways page](#).

Professional pathways aims to support members through the Cifa accreditation process by signposting to useful advice, resources and training that will help members to build on their existing knowledge and skills and reach the next stage in their professional career.

In this bulletin:

- Finding examples of your work to meet the competence matrix
- Standards and guidance for archaeological work
- What can you do next?

Finding examples of your work to meet the competence matrix:



It can sometimes seem difficult to think of examples of your skills which will meet the four areas of the [competence matrix](#) but there are suggestions about how to give relevant examples in your application on the [Practitioner pages](#) as well as [recorded application advice](#).

The e-learning module '[Professionalism in historic environment practice, an introduction](#)' will test your understanding of what it means to be working professionally in the historic environment.

Be familiar with Cifa Code of conduct and aware of the Cifa standards. Understand how they affect the work you do and can help your decision making. You may find some of the [Spotlight articles on the Code of conduct and Standards](#) articles on standards helpful.

Completing '[Everyday ethics: an introduction to professional ethics](#)' and developing your ethical knowledge will show you examples of where the Code of conduct can help to resolve issues

You can find out more about working in the public interest by reading the professional practice paper [Delivering public benefit](#).

There are more examples of the sorts of work that you could use in your application in [the specialist matrices](#).

There are examples of statements in 'Templates and further guidance' [on this page](#).

You can also discuss examples that you might use with your line manager, trainer or with colleagues. In our [Testimonies](#) section you can find out first hand from those who have successfully applied for accreditation. Pippa Ketley is an archivist at MOLA and shares her experience [of applying here](#).



Standards and guidance for archaeological work – an introduction from ClfA's Senior Professional Standards & Practice Coordinator, Jen Parker Wooding MCIfA

ClfA promotes high professional standards and strong ethics in archaeological practice to maximise the benefits that archaeologists bring to society. The ClfA Standards, supported by good practice guidance underpin a Code of conduct that outlines the professional behaviour expected of ClfA accredited individuals and ClfA-Registered Organisations. The Standards provide a benchmark for the professional archaeological community to adhere to, but they also help to assure project stakeholders that work is being undertaken consistently and to a measurable and accountable quality standard. In the UK, it is highly likely that authorities will require archaeological work to be carried out to ClfA Standards, so being aware of them and keeping up to date with any changes forms a key part of self-regulation in professional archaeological practice. At present, there are thirteen Standards covering different aspects of archaeological practice across the historic environment – [these can be found here](#).

If you're interested in learning more about the ClfA Standards and guidance, we are running free CPD workshops on [May 17](#) and [May 24](#) aimed at students and early career archaeologists – 'Where do you start with Standards? Introducing the building blocks for your career in professional archaeology'. These will introduce you to professional Standards and guidance and why these are important for your career in archaeology.



Any questions? Please ask

If you've got a question about ClfA or careers please send it to anna.welch@archaeologists.net or for membership enquiries contact lianne.birney@archaeologists.net. You'll get a confidential answer but if the information could help others it will be included in an anonymised FAQs section.

What can you do next?

Practitioner applications are reviewed at the end of each month and details of how to apply, application costs and deadlines are here <https://www.archaeologists.net/join/apply>. We are running a free digital workshop to help you understand the accreditation process for Practitioner (PCIfA) applications on 14 June and [there are details of how to sign up here](#).

There are still online places available for the ClfA2023 conference which will be hosted from Wednesday, 19 April - Friday, 21 April 2023 ClfA2023 as a livestreamed conference. The theme is Sustainable futures – standards, skills and the profession. Join us as we discuss current professional issues, showcase new developments, and present research in archaeology and the wider heritage sector. For information on the conference and to book to attend online see [our conference webpage](#). There are a number of bursary options available to assist with the cost attending ClfA2023, providing places for over 20 attendees. You can find out more about the bursaries that are available as well as [how to apply here](#).

There are also recordings of [previous conference sessions on our Events recordings page](#).

We're continuing our Zoom digital breaks in rotating morning, lunchtime and evening time slots. Look out for the registration link on the website and in your e-mail. We are repeating some of the more popular themes so please let us know if there's something you missed that you'd like to see again, or if you have an idea for a topic. E-mail us at membership@archaeologists.net

If you have any questions or suggestions for the next bulletin please send them in.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Lianne', written in a cursive style.

Anna Welch BA MA ACIfA, Professional Development & Practice Coordinator

Lianne Birney BA MCIfA, Membership Manager