

Scotland Excel

CIPS Corporate Award Practitioner Programme (SCQF7:HNC Equivalent)

Scotland Excel delivers the CIPS Corporate Award Practitioner to the Scottish public sector as a first step to candidates obtaining MCIPS (i.e. full membership of The Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply).

MCIPS is an internationally recognised award which represents the global standard for a procurement and supply professional.

Highlights of this programme include:

- content that is specifically customised by Scotland Excel's procurement experts for the Scottish public sector
- applied-learning methodologies foster deeper learning than via exams
- the collaborative and co-operative activities and the work-based assignments, in which candidates practically apply key procurement skills to real-life work, drive learning directly and immediately into the purchasing organisation providing a return on investment, and
- online workshops are complemented by guided learning opportunities through Scotland Excel's award-winning online Academy

How is the course structured?

The Practitioner programme is a work-based alternative to the self-study and college-based exam routes. It equates to the CIPS Certificate, Advanced Certificate and Diploma and consists of an induction workshop and 6 full-day workshops, covering:

- Driving value through procurement and supply
- Managing expenditures with suppliers
- Sourcing essentials in procurement and supply
- Developing contracts in procurement and supply
- Effective negotiation, and
- Integrative assignment workshop

The Practitioner qualification can be standalone or lead to candidates undertaking the Advanced Practitioner programme.

Why us?

Scotland Excel is the Centre of Procurement Expertise for Scotland's Local Government sector and is the only provider of this programme to the Scottish public sector. Our overarching aim is to further drive the professionalisation of the Scottish public procurement sector to achieve for it the same esteem as other chartered professions.

Further, these programmes are supported by the award-winning Scotland Excel Academy, which provides enhanced interactive learning experiences and Scotland Excel is an SQA and CMI Approved Centre and a CMI Chartered Manager Assessment Centre.



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Essential Information

How will the course be delivered?

The programme is delivered by Scotland Excel's public procurement experts who have a proven record of delivering this programme.

Each module uses the "flipped classroom" methodology: pre-work by candidates avoids lectures and permits collaborative and co-operative practical activities in workshops instead. This, and post-workshop activities, guides candidates on how to successfully complete each assignment.

Who is the course aimed at?

Public sector employees in Scotland who undertake procurement at an operational level.

How much does it cost?

The Practitioner programme costs £2,700 per learner for public-sector learners, £2,475 per learner for associate members of Scotland Excel and £2,250 per learner for Local Authority members of Scotland Excel.

How do book a place on the Programme?

Register your place, express an interest, or request further information by contacting academy@scotland-excel.org.uk

Course Dates and Delivery Method

Conditional upon minimum demand, Practitioner Cohort#9 is planned to commence on 31st August 2022, with the final unit workshop delivered on 20th September 2023. Courses are run online via our Academy Portal.

31st August 2022: Induction Workshop

28th September 2022: Module 1: Driving Value through P&S

26th October 2022: Module 2: Managing Expenditures with Suppliers

15th February 2023: Module 3: Sourcing Essentials in P&S

17th May 2023: Module 4: Developing Contracts in P&S

6th & 20th September 2023: Module 5: Negotiation / Integrative Workshop

How is the Course Assessed?

Four assignments (three of 3,000 words and one of 5,000 words) are undertaken. Assignments are submitted to the Scotland Excel Academy, and then to CIPS for assessment. Marks and feedback are provided by CIPS within 7 weeks of assignment submission.

How much time will it take me?

In addition to the full-day workshops, candidates should expect to work independently for at least 16 hours per month (comprising guided learning activities and completion of assessments).

How can I expect my employer to support me?

Purchasing organisations are strongly advised to provide the candidate with an in-house mentor to guide them on their function's practice and to provide other support.

What qualification will I receive if successfully completed?

On successful completion of the course candidates will receive the CIPS Practitioner Award.

