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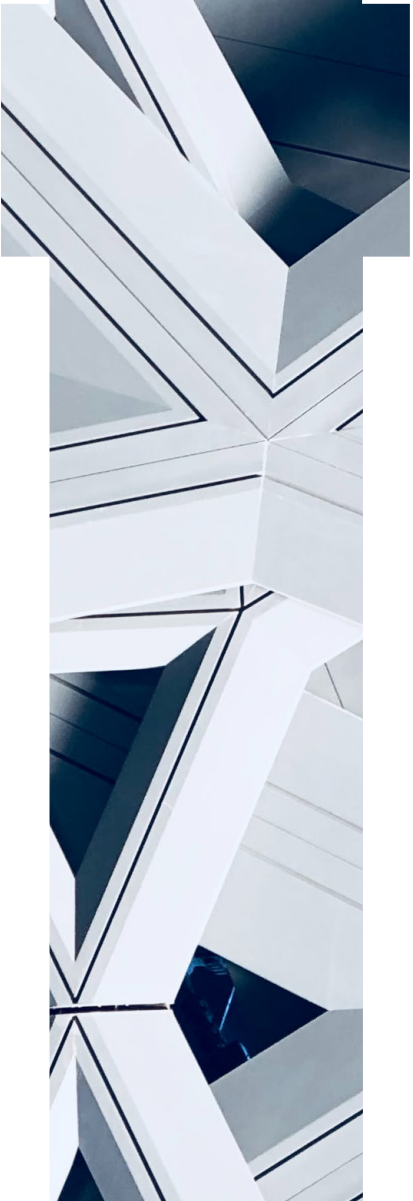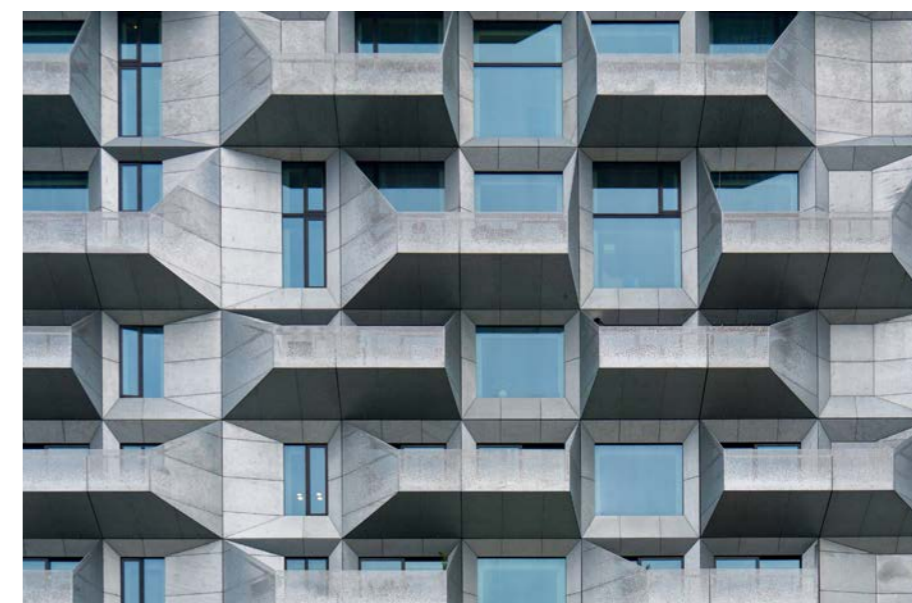
Joining the Institute

If your career or interest is within Architectural Technology, then joining the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT) is your essential next step.

CIAT is a dynamic, forward-thinking and inclusive global qualifying body for Architectural Technology and awards the Chartered Architectural Technologist, MCIAT qualification. Becoming part of the Architectural Technology community can help you get ahead with a number of benefits and a range of opportunities.

What can I join as?

There are three stages leading to qualification as a Chartered Architectural Technologist, MCIAT. Your academic qualification/s, experience and employment level will direct you to how you can join.

Student member

Student membership is free for those on their journey to a professional career in Architectural Technology. This includes full and part-time students, as well as apprentices.

Associate member, ACIAT

If you have a recognised qualification within the built environment and are solely an employee or currently seeking employment, then you can join as an Associate member; if you are self-employed (part-time or full-time) please see the section below.
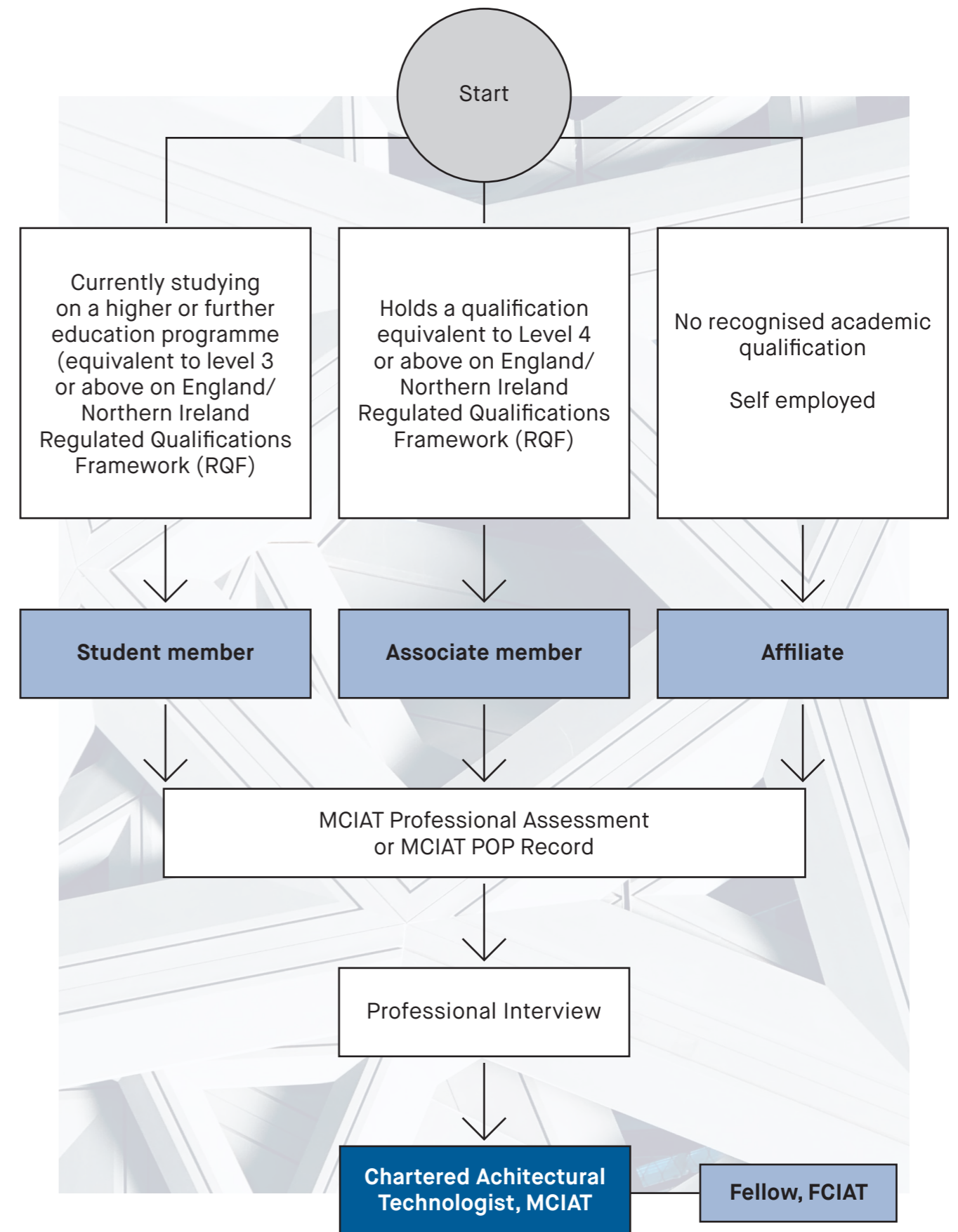
Affiliate

If you do not have a formal qualification or have an unrecognised international qualification, then you can apply as an affiliate.

What if I am self-employed?

If you are self-employed as a sole practitioner, principal, partner, director, LLP member or freelancing, offering/providing Architectural Technology services directly to clients (paid or unpaid) full time or part-time **or** you are giving guidance or services to friends, family or others, you will join as an affiliate and register your practice/s at the same time.

For details and to complete the online application form visit: ciat.org.uk/membership/join.html

Start

Currently studying on a higher or further education programme (equivalent to level 3 or above on England/Northern Ireland Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF)	Holds a qualification equivalent to Level 4 or above on England/Northern Ireland Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF)	No recognised academic qualification Self employed
Student member	**Associate member**	**Affiliate**

MCIAT Professional Assessment or MCIAT POP Record

Professional Interview

Chartered Achitectural Technologist, MCIAT   **Fellow, FCIAT**

Case Studies

2nd year, BSc (Hons) Architectural Technology, University of Northampton

Daisy Campbell is a student member and works whilst studying in Northampton.

I am currently studying on the CIAT Accredited BSc (Hons) Architectural Technology programme at the University of Northampton. I have completed my second year and am preparing to enter my third and final year. Whilst studying, I have learnt about the built environment, design and become familiar with building regulations and planning. I have really enjoyed learning about design and how to detail drawings and write specifications for them, along with learning how to use different software.

Aside from my studies, I work part time as a trainee Architectural Technologist at St. Andrews Healthcare in the Estates and Facilities Department. My role includes amending various drawings such as floor plans and sections.

On becoming a student member, after a CIAT visit to my university, I felt that I could make a difference networking with and supporting fellow students and recently qualified professionals in my Region. I joined the Central Region's aspirATion Group and became the Chair, which I thoroughly enjoy. The aspirATion Group supports students, recent graduates and newly qualified professionals entering the discipline.

Student membership is free, and I personally feel that it has been beneficial in aiding my knowledge and understanding of the industry. Through this membership, I have been able to receive updates and news through *AT Weekly* and *Architectural Technology Journal*. Being a student member helps me feel included in a global organisation of professionals that are currently working in an industry in which I aspire to develop a career. Having such connections through both my membership and participation in aspirATion, I feel that I am able to develop my knowledge and progress through my career.

My short-term goals are to graduate, upgrade to Associate membership and begin my career as an Architectural Technology professional. I look forward to learning more about Building Information Modelling (BIM) and project management in my third year, as well as all the knowledge and experience I will gain from working after my degree. I aspire to gain enough knowledge to reach my long-term goal of becoming a Chartered Architectural Technologist, MCIAT.

Architectural Technologist Associate member

Josh Thomas ACIAT, is an Architectural Technologist at HTA Design and based in London.

Wanting to learn how to design places and also understand how they work and function was what attracted me to Architectural Technology.

After graduating in 2014 from a CIAT Accredited degree programme in Architectural Technology, I spent six months travelling in Australia, Fiji and New Zealand – the trip of a lifetime! Returning to the UK, I began my career as a Junior Architectural Technologist at a relatively small practice, where I learnt the ropes of real life in practice. Two years later, I moved to where I remain today; HTA Design – a top 25 AJ100 practice in Central London, specialising in housing design with a focus on creating great places and delivering better housing where people choose to live.

I have undertaken varying roles as a member of the design team – being hands-on in the design of both traditional and modular housing schemes; and as project lead – managing a team of Architectural Technologists and architects for the successful delivery of a medium scale mixed-use development, whilst also maintaining an element of hands-on design. This often challenging role has equipped me with a valuable set of skills in many areas of management and design. Through my positive attitude and organised work ethic, I have established valuable relationships with our clients and external consultants alike.

Spanning from my time at university, membership has enabled me to establish crucial links with the governing body for our discipline (CIAT) which supports the various aspects of my roles in practice and in my career development, with extracurricular resources and opportunities to be actively involved in the wider industry. I recognise the importance and significance of achieving Chartered Architectural Technologist, MCIAT status, and the challenges that the process presents, which is why I head-up the AT Group here at HTA – a group of Architectural Technologists at varying stages of their careers, which has been set-up to facilitate individual career progression and pathways towards Chartered Membership, whilst simultaneously raising the profile of Architectural Technologists in the practice and industry. After gaining a variety of in-depth experience and knowledge of the industry and discipline, I am now approaching the final stages of my MCIAT Professional Assessment application.

Chartered Architectural Technologist, MCIAT will be an invaluable, industry recognised achievement for me and will symbolise my competence as a professional. Post-MCIAT I hope to continue exploring and delving deeper into new technologies and areas of architecture, in the strive towards creating the best of places.

Case Studies

bptw partnership, Partner
Chartered Architectural Technologist

Justin Kelly MCIAT, is a Chartered Architectural Technologist and a Partner at bptw partnership.

I am one of nine partners at bptw partnership, an award winning CIAT Chartered Practice based in Greenwich, London. I am the lead Architectural Technologist and am both a Member of the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists and a Chartered Member of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Since joining bptw in 2002, I have led many successful large scale residential and mixed use projects up to planning and through to completion. I manage a large team of bptw's Architectural Technologists and architects and, over the years, through successful project delivery, have developed excellent relationships with many of bptw's contractor and developer clients. I am actively involved in business development, management and recruitment strategies within the practice. I am regularly involved in internal and external communications ranging from office wide presentations, CPDs and staff updates, client and public design presentations, OJEU bid presentations and interviews to formal presentations at Planning Committees.

Since graduating as an Architectural Technologist, I have always had a strong desire to join CIAT and work towards Chartered Membership. I am extremely proud to hold Chartered status for both disciplines and feel that my training as a Technologist set me up with key technical and design skills, along with a strong disciplined and methodical approach that has enabled me to become successful in both design and business.

Both bptw and I have benefited from my Chartered status as it has enabled us to raise the profile of our Architectural Technologists and assist and inspire them to further their careers. Additionally it has enabled us to attract a high calibre of applicants in recent recruitment efforts.

Although not just aimed at Chartered Members, I have found the regular technical and construction news updates from CIAT to be excellent, well targeted, succinct and to the point. Being connected to CIAT and receiving various news updates is a benefit to all members and something that other qualifying bodies within the construction industry could learn from.

Sector-lead, Built Environment
British Standards Institution
Chartered Architectural Technologist

Dan Rossiter MCIAT, is the sector lead for digital transformation within the built environment at the British Standards Institution (BSI).

I have always been fascinated by how things work and I am sure that is why I became interested in the built environment. As an Architectural Technologist my interests have been quite broad, from technical detailing, to indoor environments and now digital transformation.

I joined CIAT as I recognised the network and support it provides which would allow me to develop professionally. After completing the CIAT Accredited Honours programme at Coventry University, I joined as an Associate member whilst I gained professional experience at my local authority (Cardiff City Council). Since then, I have specialised in Building Information Modelling (BIM), information management and digital transformation. Whilst I have diverged from the typical path of an Architectural Technologist, my association to CIAT has been incredibly important to me.

I work for the British Standards Institution (BSI). As the UK's national standards body, BSI operate within several sectors including the built environment, manufacturing etc. Due to its broad reach, BSI needs individuals who understand these sectors. I provide expertise for the built environment: engaging with built environment stakeholders externally to identify, and try to solve, sector-specific issues; whilst providing built environment insight internally to ensure BSI solutions and services are fit for purpose.

By demonstrating both my architectural experience and digital expertise, I became a Chartered Architectural Technologist in 2015. I did so via the MCIAT Professional Assessment, which only took me a few weeks to collate as I had been steadily collecting evidence to submit since graduating. The professional interview was enjoyable and I found out I was successful on the day. In 2018, I was very proud to be named the inaugural winner of the Chartered Architectural Technologist of the Year Award at the AT Awards.

Within my role, I regularly engage with government officials, policy makers, academics, and industry leaders. Being a Chartered Architectural Technologist provides me with the credibility I need to speak to these people as both a subject matter expert and as someone who understands the built environment.

How do I qualify as a Chartered Architectural Technologist, MCIAT?

To qualify as a Chartered Architectural Technologist you must be an Associate member or affiliate and there are two options:

OPTION 1
MCIAT Professional Assessment

The MCIAT Professional Assessment is a flexible process for those who are experienced and/or specialise within Architectural Technology. It is based around you and your experience and you have to demonstrate the required level of knowledge, experience and professionalism.

Your application should be cross referenced against the *Professional Standards Framework (PSF)* which defines the minimum threshold standards for all prospective Chartered Architectural Technologists. It is linked to the UK Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for Architectural Technology.

It covers three stages:
1. Educational Standards
2. Practice Standards
3. Professional Standards

The application must be supported by a qualified built environment professional who acts as a referee. Once the Educational and Practice Standards (Stages 1 and 2) have been successfully completed through education and/or in the work place and assessed by CIAT, you must then pass a Professional Assessment Interview (Stage 3). At the Professional Interview, you must demonstrate that you have the required professionalism in the context of your practical experience and ethical conduct to represent the Institute as a Chartered Architectural Technologist.

For further information visit:
ciat.org.uk/membership/qualifying-as-a-chartered-at/mciat-professional-assessment.html

OPTION 2
MCIAT Professional and Occupational Performance (POP) Record

The MCIAT POP Record is a three-stage assessment process (similar to the Professional Assessment) and consists of 17 knowledge and performance units providing step-by-step guidance on how to deliver, manage and procure an architectural project from its conception through to completion.

The POP Record sets out the knowledge, performance and professional standards which you must assess yourself against. Your POP Record must be signed off by a Supervisor who is a qualified built environment professional.

The MCIAT POP Record is completed in the work place and assessed by CIAT and followed by successfully passing a Professional Practice Interview.

For further information visit:
ciat.org.uk/membership/qualifying-as-a-chartered-at/the-pop-record.html

Fellow Membership FCIAT

Fellow, FCIAT is a new class of membership which recognises a Member's achievements of significant contribution to and/or excellence in Architectural Technology.
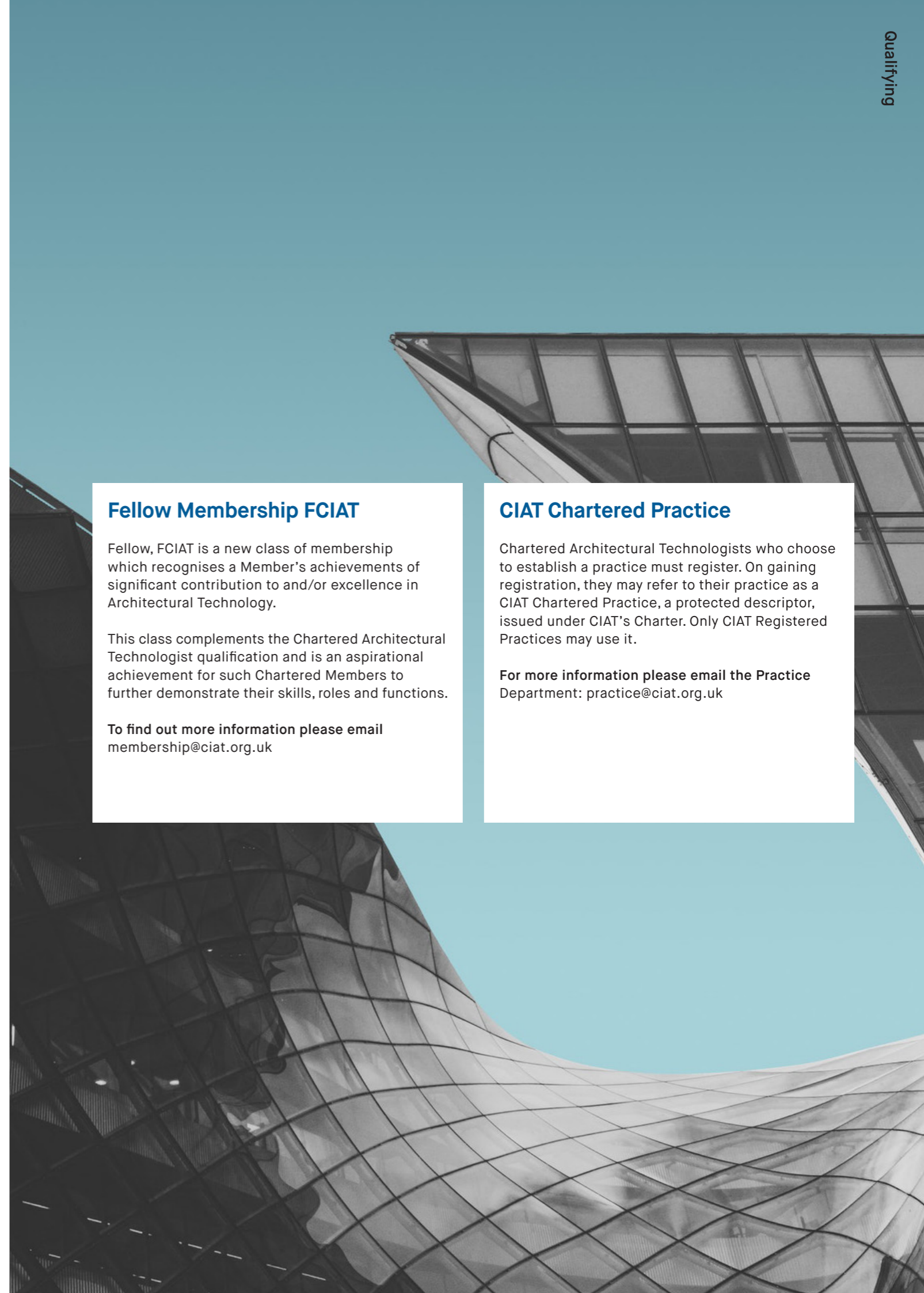
This class complements the Chartered Architectural Technologist qualification and is an aspirational achievement for such Chartered Members to further demonstrate their skills, roles and functions.

To find out more information please email
membership@ciat.org.uk

CIAT Chartered Practice

Chartered Architectural Technologists who choose to establish a practice must register. On gaining registration, they may refer to their practice as a CIAT Chartered Practice, a protected descriptor, issued under CIAT's Charter. Only CIAT Registered Practices may use it.

For more information please email the Practice
Department: practice@ciat.org.uk

Career Specialisms

The Institute has two schemes for Chartered Architectural Technologists to recognise specialisms in specific areas.

Conservation Register – CIAT-Accredited Conservationist

The CIAT Conservation Register identifies Chartered Architectural Technologists competent in the conservation of historical buildings and their surroundings. Suitability for the Register is based upon a technical assessment of a candidate's portfolio followed by a formal interview.

CIAT-Accredited Conservationists are recognised by the principal heritage funding bodies such as Historic England, Historic Scotland, Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Cadw (the Welsh Government's historic environment service) and The Heritage Lottery fund for its members to act as lead consultants on grant/fund aided projects.

From 1 January 2021, CIAT-Accredited Conservationists will be eligible to undertake work as a quinquennial inspector. As stated on the Church of England's website, church buildings in the UK must be inspected every five years and carried out by a suitably experienced and qualified professional.

For further information please visit:
ciat.org.uk/membership/specialist-registers/
conservation-register.html

Chartered Environmentalist – CEnv

As a constituent body for the Society for the Environment, CIAT is licensed to award the Chartered Environmentalist qualification to its Chartered Architectural Technologists. The Society for the Environment is the leading co-ordinating body in environmental matters and is a pre-eminent champion of a sustainable environment with over 9000 Chartered Environmentalists internationally. To be eligible to become a Chartered Environmentalist, applicants must be MCIAT and demonstrate relevant academic and/or professional experience. Applicants may be from any country.

For further information please visit:
ciat.org.uk/membership/specialist-registers/chartered-environmentalist.html or socenv.org.uk

Architectural Technology Academy (ATA)

The Architectural Technology Academy aims to not only support the development and promotion of Architectural Technology as an academic discipline, but acts as a mechanism to help and support our members to develop professionally, enhancing their knowledge and competences.

The ATA's portfolio includes, but is not limited to:
· Educational standards development for Accreditation, membership and bespoke or specialist qualifications;
· Accreditation of Honours degree level programmes;
· Accreditation of Masters degree level programmes;
· Approval of sub-Honours degree level programmes;
· Awarding Centre of Excellence status;
· Accredited Conservationist Register;
· Chartered Environmentalist qualification;
· AT CPD Register;
· Developing and promoting research in Architectural Technology.

AT CPD Register
To support its members, the Institute offers an online platform to find relevant courses to support their professional development.

The AT CPD Register is an online directory of providers and their courses which have been deemed to be of a high standard, current and relevant to Architectural Technology professionals.

The AT CPD Register can be found here:
ciat.org.uk/education/cpd/cpd-register.html

CIAT

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