Fellowship: taking your professional journey further

Briefings

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CIOT Fellowship offers an opportunity to deepen your expertise, demonstrateyour commitment to the profession and take the next step in your professional development.

Qualifying as a Chartered Tax Adviser (CTA) is a significant professional achievement, but it does not have to mark the end of the journey. For those looking to develop their expertise further, Fellowship of theCIOT offers another opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and commitment to the tax profession.

For some, becoming a Fellow is an opportunity to explore a particular area of tax in greater depth. For others, it provides recognition of the specialist expertise and experience they have developed throughout their careers. Whatever the motivation, Fellowship represents an important professional milestone.

Taking the next step

CTA Associates can progress to Fellowship by submitting a dissertation or a body of work for assessment:

- A dissertation should normally be between 10,000 and 25,000 words and must relate to the UK tax system. It should demonstrate original analysis, supported by full references and a bibliography. Candidates first submit a proposal for Councils approval.
- The body-of-work route provides an alternative for those with existing material demonstrating their expertise. The work must relate to the UK tax system and demonstrate the authors own analysis or an original synthesis of existing material. Its volume is at Councils discretion.

Working towards Fellowship can be rewarding in its own right. Researching a specialist subject encourages candidates to explore complex issues, challenge established thinking and develop a deeper understanding of their chosen field. It also offers an opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the wider tax profession. By examining an issue in detail and presenting their findings, candidates can help develop understanding of complex areas of taxation, bringing fresh perspectives to subjects that may have wider relevance for practitioners and policymakers alike.

The knowledge gained may strengthen an individuals professional practice, support their work with clients or colleagues and contribute to their wider professional development. Fellowship is therefore about more than adding CTA (Fellow) after your name. It provides an opportunity to demonstrate asustained commitment to learning and to the development of expertise within the tax profession.

Image

50 YEARS A FELLOW: STEVE BURRELL



Few people illustrate the lasting value of professional development better than Steve Burrell, who this year celebrates 50 years as a Fellow of CIOT.

Steve began his career in tax in 1966, when returns were completed by hand and calculations could involve logarithms. After qualifying with the Institute of Taxation in 1969, he set himself another ambition: to become a Fellow. With no study courses available locally in Norfolk, he prepared by reading the volumes of ***Simon's Taxes*** from cover to cover, successfully achieving Fellowship in 1976.

Over the following five decades, Steve's career has encompassed specialist tax practice, writing for the tax press, serving the East Anglia Branch and contributing to CIOT's Personal Tax Sub-Committee.

And he is not finished yet. Still practising and attending courses, Steve says he intends to continue 'as long as emails keep arriving and the phone still rings'.

His remarkable commitment was recognised at the recent Joint Presidents' Reception at London's Sky Garden, where he was presented with a certificate marking 50 years as a Fellow.

Direct Fellowship

Direct Fellowship is intended for established tax professionals who have not passed the CTA examination and for whom taking it is no longer feasible at their career stage. CIOTs Royal Charter permits a maximum of ten individuals ayear to become members through thisroute. Applicants must meet theeligibility criteria in the Direct Fellowship application form and have two sponsors who are CIOT members. Approval of the application allows them to proceed to submitting a dissertation or body of work to achieve Fellowship.

Interested in Fellowship?

Visit www.tax.org.uk/fellowship for guidance on the routes available. CIOTcharges a £207 fee to present a dissertation or body of work. Contact the Education Team at education@tax.org.uk to discuss eligibility, the application process and payment arrangements.