

Description of a Chartered Associate of The Textile Institute

Introduction

Fashion and the design, manufacture and distribution of clothing and footwear are at the heart of the textile industry and should be considered as implicitly embedded wherever the term 'textiles' is used within this document.

Scope

The Textile Institute's scope extends to all those who contribute to the textile supply chain* through one or more of the following skills / knowledge areas:

Creative	Design and development
Scientific / Technical	Production/manufacture; colouration and finishing
Business	Management; marketing; buying; logistics; retail; communication; sourcing and merchandising.
Education, research/innovation	post-16; undergraduate and postgraduate levels; research and development

*The textile supply chain in this respect includes (but is not limited to) the following product types:

- ✓ Textile fibres and filaments
- ✓ Membranes
- ✓ Yarns
- ✓ Woven fabrics
- ✓ Knitted fabrics
- ✓ Nonwoven materials
- ✓ Technical textiles
- ✓ Sustainability
- ✓ Clothing
- ✓ Leather
- ✓ Footwear
- ✓ Millinery
- ✓ Costume
- ✓ Fashion products
- ✓ Fashion accessories
- ✓ Household textiles
- ✓ Floorcoverings made from textile materials
- ✓ Upholstery
- ✓ Craft materials
- ✓ Components

Description of ATI

The Associateship is a Chartered professional qualification which is awarded under The Textile Institute's Royal Charter to members who have a high level of knowledge in one specialist textile area, as exemplified by an appropriate Honours degree or equivalent qualification, and a broad general knowledge of textiles in related areas, together with sufficient professional experience, as detailed in these Regulations.

Attributes that a Chartered ATI should have:

By virtue of their education, experience and relevant training Chartered Associates of The Textile Institute must be able to demonstrate:

- A broad general knowledge of the textile industry
- A high level of knowledge in one specialist textile area*
- Ability to practise in their chosen field
- A high standard of professional competency as could be illustrated through such skills as: effective communication; interpersonal skills; decision making; accountability; problem solving.
- A commitment to maintain currency of knowledge in their field.

*see scope of the TI (as presented on the title page) for examples of specialist areas that might be acceptable

Guidance for completing Section 6 of the application form

6.1 A broad general knowledge of the textile industry

Please explain what you do in the context of the whole textile supply chain by writing a short paragraph about the functions you perform and the positions you have held. In successfully doing so you will show that you appreciate the extent of the textile industry and where your role fits in, in respect of activities both upstream and downstream from your own.

6.2 A high level of knowledge in one specialist textile area

Here you should state what your specialist textile area is. You may wish to refer to the 'scope' of The Textile Institute to help you here.

Next, we would like you to explain how you have developed your theoretical knowledge in your field. This would normally be judged on academic qualifications however, if you are not in possession of sufficient/appropriate academic qualifications we may request that you complete a personal statement to demonstrate what kind of previous activities have helped you to achieve your learning.

6.3 Ability to practise in your chosen field

Here you will need to demonstrate how you have applied your theoretical knowledge through your working life. This could be assessed through the positions you have held, for what periods of time and in what fields. Maybe include evidence of publications, dissertation, thesis, awards, prizes or commendations from peers / superiors.

6.4 A high standard of professional competency

Here you will need to reflect on examples of where you have used communication skills, or where you might have honed your problem solving and decision making skills.

6.5 A commitment to maintain currency of knowledge in your field.

Please describe some of the ways in which you keep up-to-date in your field of expertise. This might include evidence of reading (named journals / industry based magazines); willingness to undertake short courses; training courses; attendance at lectures; conferences; exhibitions etc.