



Institute of
Food Science
+ Technology

ifst

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PROFESSIONALISM vs. REGULATION: AN OUT OF COURT SETTLEMENT

PROFESSIONALISM



PROFESSIONALISM

professional prə'fɛʃ(ə)n(ə)l/

Adjective

1. relating to or belonging to a profession.
"young professional people"

2. engaged in a specified activity as one's main paid occupation rather than as an amateur.

"a professional tennis player"

Noun

1. a person engaged or qualified in a profession.
"professionals such as lawyers and surveyors"

synonyms: white-collar worker, professional worker, office worker

PROFESSIONALISM

‘Belonging to a profession’ =

- Being part of a wider community
- Having a network with which you can engage
- All complying to a Code of Professional Conduct

‘Being qualified in a profession’ =

- An independent assessment of your knowledge skills and experience
- Committing to remain fully up-to-date with your knowledge and skills (CPD)

Countersignature 1/3

Application [redacted]



Information for the Applicant

For this application, you will need to get another person to confirm that the information you have submitted is true. The application summary [below] lets them see the information you have given us. The person will need to fill in and sign the "countersignature" part of the declaration form.

In order to act as a "countersignatory", the person must:

- have known you personally for at least two years
- be a professional person (including those who are retired) for example bank or building society officials, police officers, civil servants, ministers of religion and people with professional qualifications like teachers, accountants, engineers, and solicitors.
- **Not** be related to you by birth or by marriage
- **Not** be in a personal relationship with you (including a same-sex relationship)
- **Not** live at your address
- **Not** be a member of staff at the Her Majesty's Passport Office.

If the applicant lives and is applying from the UK the countersignatory must:

- live in the UK
- hold a British or Irish passport which has not run out

If the applicant lives and is applying from outside the UK the countersignatory must:

- hold a UK, Irish or other EU, US or Commonwealth passport (in order of preference) which has not run out. We will be able to process applications more quickly where the countersignature has a UK or Irish passport.
- where they hold a US, Commonwealth or other EU (not British or Irish) passport, provide a colour photocopy of their passport's biodata page (the page with the photograph). This must be sent in with the countersigned declaration form.
- not be a commercially employed agent helping you to apply for a passport.

A full list of examples of those who hold a professional job or are people of standing in the community can be found at: www.gov.uk

Information for the Countersignatory

Thank you for agreeing to act as a countersignatory for a passport application. As a countersignatory, there are three things you need to do:

- 1) Confirm the applicant's identity: You must confirm that the information provided by the applicant as part of the application number is true. The application summary shows the information that has been provided to us, please read it. You must also confirm that you have known the adult submitting the application for this child for at least two years and that they have parental responsibility for the child.

PROFESSIONALISM

Countersignatories must work in (or be retired from) a recognised profession or be 'a person of good standing in their community', eg:

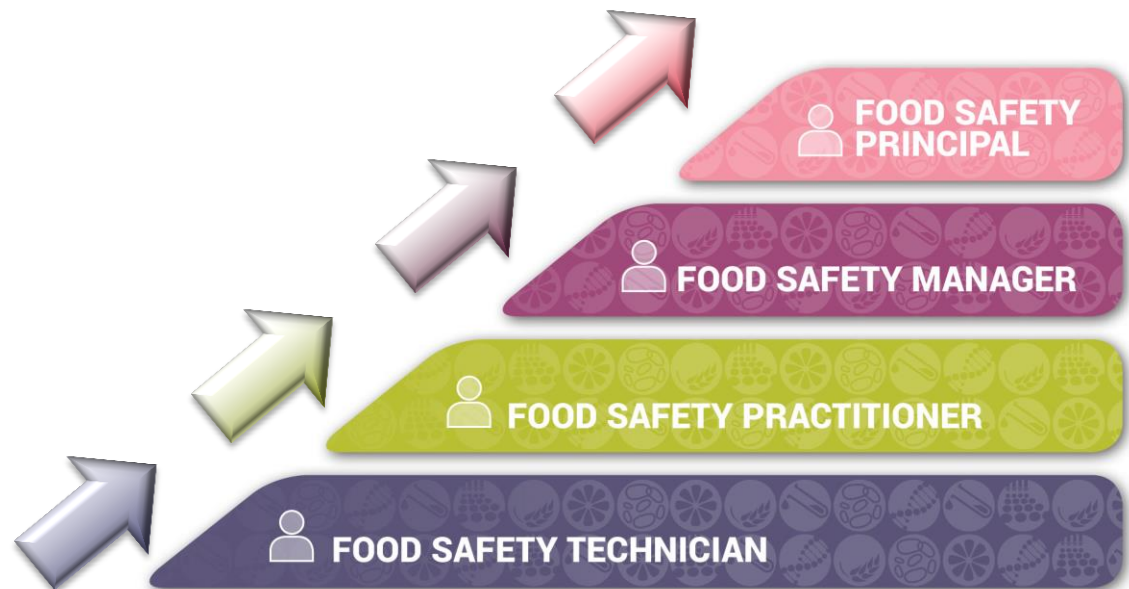
- accountant
- airline pilot
- articulated clerk of a limited company
- assurance agent of recognised company
- bank/building society official
- barrister
- chairman/director of limited company
- chiropodist
- commissioner of oaths
- councillor, eg local or county
- civil servant (permanent), but not someone who works for Her Majesty's Passport Office (HMPO)
- dentist
- director/manager/personnel officer of a VAT-registered company
- engineer - with professional qualifications
- financial services intermediary, eg a stockbroker or insurance broker
- fire service official
- funeral director
- insurance agent (full time) of a recognised company
- journalist
- Justice of the Peace
- legal secretary - fellow or associate member of the Institute of Legal Secretaries and PAs
- licensee of public house
- local government official
- manager/personnel officer of a limited company
- member, associate or fellow of a professional body
- Member of Parliament

VIRTUOUS CIRCLE OF PROFESSION RECOGNITION



IFST'S REGISTER

Our single register provides four levels through which food safety specialists can develop and progress



DEVELOPING CONFIDENCE

Confidence will develop amongst:

- **Retailers** – knowing that their suppliers recognise and encourage the highest professional standards from their technical specialists
- **Regulators** – knowing that food businesses deliver food safety processes using professionals who are capable and up-to-date with their knowledge
- **HR recruiters** - can use professional status as a ‘shorthand’ for a level of experience and commitment
- Ultimately the **consumer**



CONFIDENCE
+ REPEATED DELIVERY =



TRUST



RESPONSIBILITY

THE CHOICE...

**Will we demonstrate the
responsibility – that we can be
trusted to effectively self-
regulate in relation to food safety
skills development?**

OR

**Are we content with current levels of
regulation, auditing, consumer and
media scrutiny?**

“Whenever the people are well informed, they can be trusted with their own government; that whenever things get so far wrong as to attract their notice, they may be relied on to set them to rights.”



Thomas Jefferson 1789

the **mark** of the food
profession

Freedom  **Responsibility**

IFST'S REGISTER

Let's seize the opportunity to
demonstrate our
professional responsibility



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THANK YOU

www.ifst.org/foodsafetyregister

