

**Members (MIFST)** are professionals who have made a significant and continuing contribution to the development of food science and technology. To qualify for the Member level, you must be able to demonstrate the attainment of **80 points** (minimum) using the tariff system below. This is based on a combination of academic qualifications and knowledge gained through relevant experience.

Level achieved	Qualification Points Awarded	Relevant experience points required for MIFST <sup>^</sup>
<b>Level 8 qualification:</b> PhD Food Sc/Tech and closely related <sup>1</sup>	80	0
<b>Level 7 qualification in Food Sc/Tech and closely related<sup>1</sup>:</b> MSc, PGCert, PGDip, Level 7 award, certificate, diploma, NVQ or apprenticeship	60	20
<b>Level 6 qualification in Food Sc/Tech and closely related<sup>1</sup>:</b> BSc, Graduate Cert, Graduate Dip & higher degrees, Level 6 award, certificate, diploma, NVQ or apprenticeship	50	30
<b>Level 6-8 qualification in other science/tech<sup>2</sup>:</b> BSc, Graduate Cert, Graduate Dip & higher degrees, Level 6 award, certificate, diploma, NVQ or apprenticeship	40	40
<b>Level 4 and 5 qualifications:</b> Foundation degrees, HND, HNC, CertHE, DipHE, Level 4 or 5 award, certificate, diploma, NVQ or apprenticeship in all scientific and technological disciplines <sup>1 2</sup>	30	50
<b>Level 3 apprenticeship, no formal science or tech qualifications, or copy of the qualification is not provided</b>	0	80

**Please note:**

- <sup>^</sup>Work experience and apprenticeship points are awarded on the basis of 10 points per year, or .8 points per month – these can be awarded on a pro-rata basis.
- Only highest qualification attracts points. Certificate must be provided for points to be awarded.
- If CV or LinkedIn profile is not provided as evidence 0 points are awarded.

**Examples of suitable subjects include:**

1. Food science and technology degrees of which a major element is food plus another subject, e.g. nutrition, product development, chemistry, microbiology, marketing, management, consumer studies, biotechnology.
2. Science, technology and engineering subjects: e.g. nutrition, chemistry, biochemistry, physics, mathematics, biology, engineering, statistics, agriculture, environmental sciences, plus modular degrees which combine these subjects.

**Overseas Qualifications**

Qualifications from non-UK/EU universities are welcome. However, to support your application we will need a statement of compatibility from UK ENIC. This can be obtained from:

<https://www.enic.org.uk/Qualifications/SoC/Default.aspx>

### **Relevant experience**

You can demonstrate the continuing development of your knowledge and skills through a wide range of employment within the food chain and associated organisations, education, training or personal study related to the field of food science and technology.

Examples of suitable employment include: food processing, food manufacturing, distribution, technical sales, food law enforcement, food retailing, food service, trade bodies, legal work, consultancy, central and local government departments and agencies, research, academia, teaching, media, etc.

The Membership Assessment Panel will use the following benchmarks when assessing your experience:

- Handling information - using scientific information, producing and interpreting data
- Communication skills (oral and written) - communicating effectively in oral and written formats
- Improving learning and performance - developing and identifying opportunities for skills development
- Planning and organisation - planning your work on a short-term and long-term basis
- Working with others - working as part of a team and networking with others
- Scientific skills - carrying out research effectively

### **Supporting documentation**

You will need to provide a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate that you have met the requirements for MIFST. Your portfolio should include:

- Application Form if not already an IFST member
- Details of one referee
- Current CV/LinkedIn profile. This should include details such as job roles and responsibilities held.
- Copy of highest qualification

You will also need to pay the registration fee where applicable.

### **Referees**

Your application should be supported by well-informed comments from one suitable referee. A suitable referee would be a senior professional in your field of work who is able to base their views on direct knowledge of your work experience and who can confirm the validity of your stated achievements.

It is preferable that your referee should be a member of IFST or another recognised professional body, but this is not mandatory. Your referee should not be related to you or subordinate to you. Please communicate with your referee to let them know that we will be in contact before submitting their details to us.