

## **PROCEDURE FOR DIRECT ENTRY TO LEVELS 2 AND 3**

### **GENERAL**

Direct entry is to be used infrequently to allow suitable persons to operate at levels 2 and 3.

Direct entry candidates fall into two main categories:

- UK nationals
- Foreign nationals

UK nationals may only apply for direct entry to level 2. Foreign nationals may apply for direct entry to either level 2 or level 3.

NOTE Level jumping, e.g. from level 1 to level 3, is not allowed.

Sporting, military or rescue service experience alone are not sufficient for direct entry. Qualifying working hours (see below) are required to be gained working on ropes in an industrial environment.

The candidate shall provide documentary evidence of his/her rope-work experience, ideally derived from some sort of log-book system. It should include a credible reference of his/her suitability to work and/or manage in a wide variety of industrial situations, as well as demonstrate the technical rope work skills required.

All candidates shall receive training by an IRATA level 3 trainer, prior to assessment by an IRATA assessor. The trainer and assessor shall not be the same person.

For both direct entry to level 2 and 3, the assessor is responsible for the processing of all paperwork and the strict adherence to the procedures.

NOTE The assessor should allow for this in his/her fees.

The details of this procedure shall be made available to all direct entry candidates by the assessor.

### **DIRECT ENTRY TO LEVEL 2**

Documented details of experience and references shall be submitted to the assessor for approval, prior to the assessment.

Candidates shall be able to provide evidence of at least 1000 hours' and one year's logged experience in the system from which they are coming.

After successful completion of the level 2 assessment, the assessor shall seek the written approval of two other assessors, who, having approved the candidate for direct entry to level 2, shall countersign the assessment form.

The application for registration, the assessment form and the written approvals by the two other assessors shall then be submitted to the IRATA secretariat for processing and the issue of level 2 certification.

### **DIRECT ENTRY TO LEVEL 3**

Documented details of experience and references shall be submitted to the assessor for approval, prior to the assessment.

Candidates shall have been working at supervisor level in the system from which they are coming.

Candidates shall be able to provide evidence of at least 2000 hours' and two years' logged experience in the system from which they are coming.

NOTE It is often impossible to determine the suitability of candidates for direct entry to level 3 from the above information and the clients' appraisals, prior to the commencement of training. The level 3 trainer should vet the candidates' suitability prior to presenting them for assessment. Trainers should emphasise to candidates the responsibility that they have to maintain IRATA standards of safety and quality. Trainers and assessors should be highly confident that candidates can be entrusted with protecting the safe record and good reputation of IRATA. They should ensure that candidates have the ability to supervise and manage a work-team properly, in addition to being competent in performing technical rope access tasks.

After successful completion of the level 3 assessment, the assessor shall seek the written approval of two other assessors, who, having approved the candidate for direct entry to level 3, shall countersign the assessment form.

The application for registration, the assessment form and the written approvals from the two other assessors shall then be presented to the training committee for final approval. The application shall be approved by all attending members of the training committee meeting, before the issue of the level 3 certificate.

If there is a need to speed up this procedure, due to the timing of the next training committee meeting, the written approval of every member of the training committee review panel shall be obtained before the relevant copy of the assessment form and level 3 certificate can be issued to the candidate.