

## WHAT DO WE MEAN BY A PROFESSIONALISATION SCHEME?

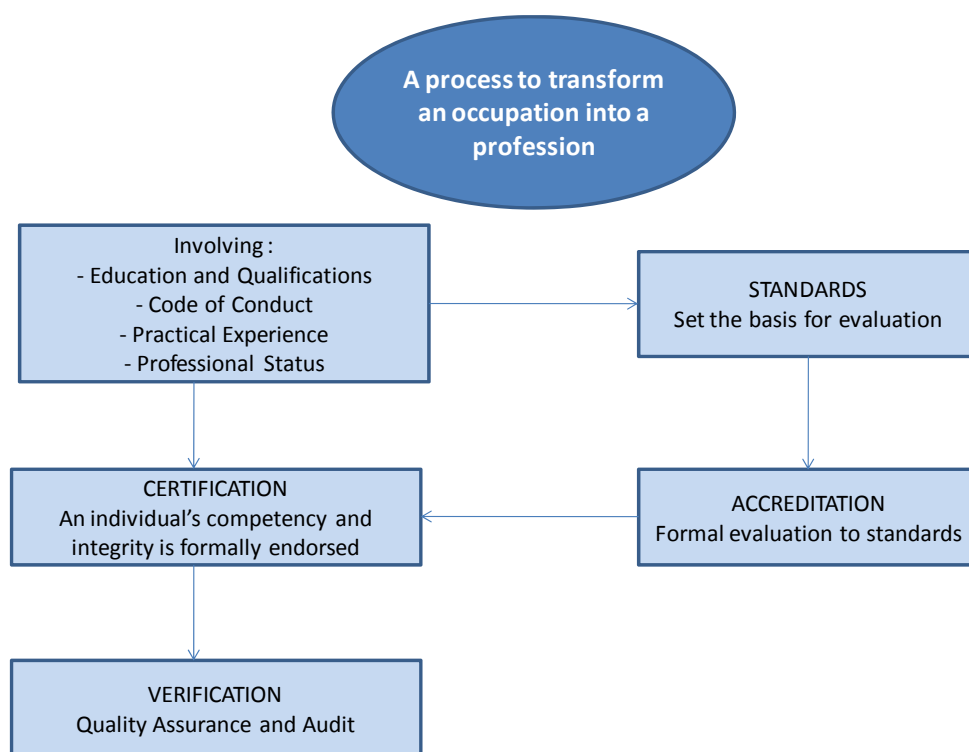
A Professionalisation Scheme is a series of standards-based processes to transform an occupation into a profession.

Looking at how other occupations have gone about introducing a Professionalisation Scheme we can see that there are a number of elements involved.

These elements are interrelated but really important to ensuring that an individual's competency and integrity meets agreed standards as determined by the sector. When an individual meets the required standards, then they qualify to be awarded the relevant credential and professional status.

This is not an entirely new concept for fire and emergency services as the Institute of Fire Engineers (IFE) has a similar scheme to certify Fire Engineering practitioners; the Fire Protection Association of Australia (FPAA) also has a similar scheme, certifying Workplace Emergency Response (WER) practitioners and Bushfire Planning and Design (BPAD) practitioners. The Institute of Foresters Australia (IFA) also certifies eligible individuals in the field of forestry (Registered Professional Forester).

It is envisaged that an AFAC Professionalisation Scheme would be complementary to the others that are administered by other Associations but specific to the needs of AFAC member agencies.



### ***Transforming an Occupation into a Profession***

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