



London | Accra | Dubai

Center for International Mediators and Arbitrators

CIMA Membership

How to Join the Center for International Mediators and Arbitrators (CIMA) or Upgrade Your Membership

This document outlines the pathways to obtain CIMA membership. CIMA membership signifies that an individual has achieved a high level of expertise and proficiency in dispute resolution and demonstrates a commitment to professionalism, integrity, and esteemed values. To obtain CIMA membership, there are three primary routes:

1. The Experienced Practitioner Route

This route recognizes professional experience in mediation, arbitration, or related fields. Applicants are required to provide details of their appointments or participation over a specific period that meets the standards set by CIMA.

Experience Requirements:

- **Fellowship:** 10 years of experience.
- **Membership:** 5 years of experience.
- **Associate Membership:** 6 months of experience.
- **Student Membership:** No prior experience required.

If you wish to be assessed via the Experienced Practitioner Route, please email info@thecima.org.

2. The Training Route

The training route allows candidates to qualify as Fellows, Members, or Associates through specific CIMA training courses and assessments. This route does not require minimum years of experience.

For further details on the courses specific to each membership level, please visit email osei.dickson@thecima.org

Key Courses Include:

- **Introduction to Mediation and Arbitration**
- **Module 1 (Law, Practice, and Procedure)**
- **Module 2 (Law of Obligations)**
- **Module 3 (Evidence, Decision-Making, and Award Writing)**
- **Mediation Training**

For information on accelerated training routes, please visit [CIMA Accelerated Routes Page].

3. The Recognised Course Provider Route

This route allows individuals to gain membership by completing courses with external educational institutions accredited by CIMA. These institutions operate under the Recognised Course Provider (RCP) scheme, which ensures alignment with CIMA's standards for membership.

Membership Levels and Requirements

Membership Level	Experienced Practitioner Route	Training Route	Recognised Course Provider
Associate	– 6 months of experience		
– Latest CV			
– Reference Letter	– Zero experience		

– Completion of one of CIMA’s introductory courses.

– Completion of an equivalent qualification from a recognised course provider.

Member

– 5 years of experience

– Latest CV

– Schedule of appointments or participation

– Two (2) reference letters

– Zero experience

– Completion of Module 1 training and assessment, OR completion of CIMA’s Accelerated Route to Membership (ARM).

– Completion of an equivalent course from a Recognised Course Provider.

– Attending an interview.

World Fellow

– 10 years of experience

– Knowledge of the law of obligations and evidence at first-degree level or equivalent

– Zero experience

– Completion of Modules 2 and 3, OR completion of an Accelerated Route to Fellowship, OR completion of CIMA’s Diploma, Part 3.

– Completion of an equivalent course from a Recognised Course Provider.

– Attending an interview.

No prior experience required. Membership is free and open to students currently enrolled in universities or institutions listed under CIMA’s Recognised Course Providers.

Student

Additional Information:

CIMA is committed to providing clear pathways for individuals at every stage of their ADR journey. Whether you are an experienced practitioner or just starting out, CIMA offers a membership route tailored to your needs.