

Premier Training Partner Status – Questions and Answers

1. What value is added to Accredited Training Partners (ATPs) by the designation Premier Training Partner?

Some ATPs may wish to demonstrate that they go beyond the benchmark, providing a consistently excellent service to their candidates and those that fund candidates, across all criteria below. This includes comprehensive analysis of feedback and monitoring of training quality as well as achieving very good results. The Premier Training Partner scheme is designed to encourage and recognise that achievement.

2. What benefits does Premier Training Partner Status confer on the ATP?

Premier Training Partners will enjoy:

- A prominent position on the ATP page of the CISI website
- Promotional opportunities at local CISI events eg award ceremonies, seminars etc.
- Use of the Premier Training Partner logo
- The first opportunity to work with the CISI on relevant innovative projects where a close partnership is needed.
- Invitation to attend relevant syllabus review meetings

3. Is there a quota of Premier Training Partners?

No, there is no quota, the evaluation of applications is evidenced based, and criterion referenced.

4. What are the criteria for Premier Training Partner status?

To be considered for Premier Training Partner status and to maintain this accreditation, a Training Provider must go above and beyond the expectations for an Accredited Training Partner and demonstrate (in addition to the standard ATP requirements):

- A pass rate that 10% higher for each exam by country than the average pass rate for candidates who study without an Accredited Training Partner in that country
- Wider engagement with CISI which might include, but is not limited to, involvement in:
 - Syllabus reviews
 - ATP Forum
 - Workbook review
- Promoting CISI to clients
- One Training Partner employee holding and maintaining, at least, full CISI Membership (MCSI or above)
- A well-established partner who can evidence consistent delivery of training (e.g. held Accredited Training Partner status for a minimum of a year).

5. How should applications be made?

Prospective Premier Training Partners should contact their CISI local representative to discuss the application and requirements. The Premier Training Partner application form must be completed and sent to accreditation@cisi.org with the relevant documentation to support the application.

6. What is the deadline for applications?

Applications for Premier Training Partner status can be submitted at any time. Applications should be sent to accreditation@cisi.org. You will receive an acknowledgement within five working days.

7. Who evaluates the applications?

The applications are considered by a Committee of Senior CISI Staff. The panel should include a Director or Assistant Director from Qualifications, a specialist from Qualifications, the Senior Qualifications Portfolio Manager and a senior member of staff from Business Development that must be an Assistant Director or above.

8. How are the different criteria weighted during the evaluation process?

Some of the criteria are quantitative, most are qualitative, and the evaluation will necessarily be judgemental and based on a holistic view of the training Partner. The CISI relies on the expertise of the evaluation panel to come to a reasonable assessment of the appropriateness of the application in any given case. ATPs whose candidates have consistently poor examination results are unlikely to gain Premier Training Partner status even if other aspects of their work are excellent. The decision of the panel is final.

9. Is there an appeal process where an application is not successful?

The CISI will give feedback on the areas where improvement is required and the ATP may apply again in the following year. In exceptional circumstances, where additional information is supplied, the ATP may not be required to wait a full year.

10. Confidentiality

Applications for Premier Training Partner status will be treated with confidentiality by the CISI.

Information on applications will not be shared with other ATPs/PTPs.