

# Frequently Asked Questions – MyAccount - Regulation

We have compiled a list of frequently asked questions to help with your queries. If you can't find the answer to your questions, please <u>contact us</u>.

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# **System**

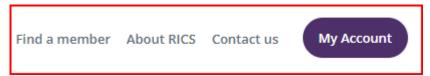
#### What is MyAccount?

MyAccount supplies our members with easy access to their RICS details and the ability to apply for Regulation.

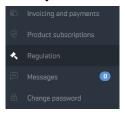
# How do I use the MyAccount for Regulation?

#### How do I log on?

Go to www.rics.org and select My Account from the top right



Enter your email address and password and then select Regulation from the menu on the left



#### Trouble logging on?

If you've forgotten or lost your password, you can create a new one.

Reset your password to begin.

If the problem further persists, then please ring +44 (0)24 7686 8555 or email contactrics@rics.org.

# Responsible Principal

The <u>Rules for the Registration of Firms</u> introduce the requirement for all RICS regulated firms to appoint a responsible principal. A responsible principal will have primary responsibility for ensuring that RICS' professional, technical and ethical standards are applied, upheld and supported by an appropriate assurance framework within a regulated firm. A <u>Responsible Principal Application</u> must be completed by one of the Principals prior to registering your firm for RICS Regulation

# How can I complete a registration application?

#### How do I register my firm for RICS Regulation?

Before starting your application, you should ensure that you have read and understood the <u>Rules</u> <u>for the Registration of Firms</u>, your firm details are up to date, your nominated Responsible Principal has completed their <u>Responsible Principal Application</u> and you have your card to make



payment or you have already set up your trade account for your firm to be invoiced. You can apply for a trade account from the link in the Introduction screen when you first click on Apply. This will need to have been confirmed before you are able to use it. If your firm is not set up on our internal system, you will not be able to select it to register it. Please go to <a href="Register your firm for 'Regulated by RICS' status">Register your firm for 'Regulated by RICS' status</a> and complete and return the Firm details application so that your firm can be added.

In the Regulation section click the Apply button next to Firm Registration.



The firm registration is split into the following sections:



**Eligibility** – In this section you will be asked to add/update your firm details on to the system:

- Registering Firm
- Primary Office
- Legal Name of the firm This is the Registered name that you supplied on your firm's details application.
- All of the offices that you wish to include in the Registration (ensure that you add the primary office here as well. Any offices not added here will not show as Regulated)
- Principals (If you are a Sole Practitioner, make sure you add yourself here as a principal)
- Responsible Principal This must be one of the principals of the firm
- Registration Scope (What countries does my firm provide Surveying services to?)

After updating your eligibility details, you will be directed to the page "Available Registrations".

Depending on the answers you have already provided, you will see one or both of the following available registrations:

- Firm Regulation
- Sponsoring Non-Regulated Organisation (SPONRO) Sponsoring Non-Regulated
  Organisations are organisations that pay fees and provide firm related regulatory information
  on behalf of their Registered Valuer employees but are not Regulated by RICS. For further
  guidance on these types of organisations please click here

If you are registering as a SPONRO, you will be directed to the Insurance and Alternative Dispute Resolution pages. For Firm Regulation, you will be asked what further work your firm undertakes. There are fees linked to all of these additional schemes and they cannot be changed once they have been selected. If you are unsure, you can apply for these schemes separately once your firm is Regulated

- Sponsoring VR Members Click here for further guidance.
- Applying for the Designated Professional Body Scheme Click here for further guidance.
- Clients' Money Click here for further guidance.



Useful Hint: You can save your progress and return to the application when it suits you. Application – In this section you will be asked to add/update your firm details regarding:

- Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) Click <a href="here">here</a> for further guidance.
- Complaints Handling Procedure (CHP) Click here for further guidance.
- Conduct / Criminal Convictions
- Percentage of time spent on the services you provide
- Complaints/Claims information
- Firm's annual turnover
- Questions specific to any extra schemes you may have chosen (Client Money, General Insurance Distribution Activities)

Useful Hint: Make sure to answer all questions so you can proceed with the registration.

**Declaration** – In this section you will review your answers and make sure all the information provided is correct. If you are not the Responsible Principal, you will be asked at this stage to let your Responsible Principal know that you have completed everything, and they can log in to check the information and sign it off.

Useful Hint: The firm's registration for regulation needs to be signed and submitted by a responsible principal.

**Sponsorship** – If you have chosen to sponsor Registered Valuers, you need to select how many licences you will need for the next 12 months. These are not assigned to a specific Member; they belong to the firm. When a Registered Valuer uses the licence code to complete their return, they will show in the list under the Manage section. You need to make sure you purchase enough licences. More can be added if you need them later. If you need to buy more licences over 6 months into your subscription year, you will receive a 50% discount on them as they are only valid until the firm's renewal date. If a member no longer works for your firm, you can remove them from your list and reuse the licence.

**Payment** – In this section you will need to pay any fees due, which will be based on your answers to the earlier questions.

For clarification if your firm wants to pay by invoice, please go to <a href="https://myaccount.rics.org/tradeaccount">https://myaccount.rics.org/tradeaccount</a> to apply for a trade account

The system will calculate the amount due and will bring you to the secure payment area to enter your card details or to select the trade account option if you have this set up.

Once you have paid, we will review the information you have provided and contact you if necessary.

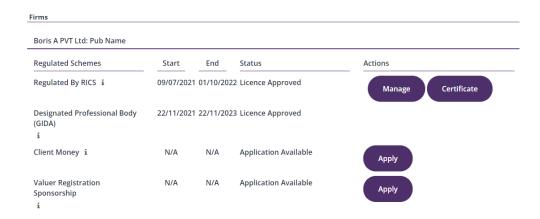
Useful Hint: Please ensure your details are correct on our system to ensure we can get in touch.

#### Where can I find the code to give to my sponsored Valuers?

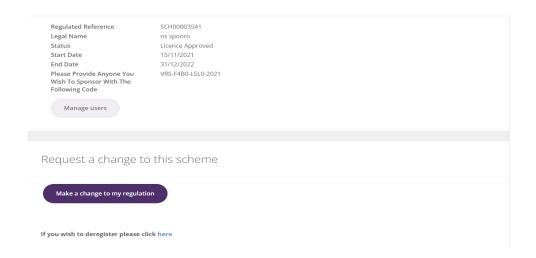
When your application has been approved, under the 'Your Regulation' section you will see your firm's details. You can see the start and end date of your subscription, which schemes you have and which ones are available to apply for should you ever need to. You will see the Manage button. In



the manage section you will find the sponsorship code. You will also be able to manage your Registered Valuers from this section and purchase more codes should you need them.

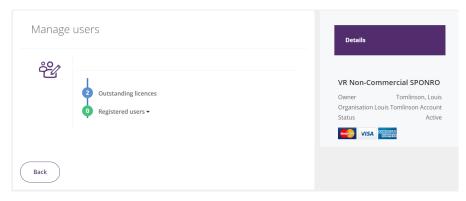


Once you have clicked on the manage button you will find the information about Valuer Registration sponsorship. You will see there is a Manage users section in here.



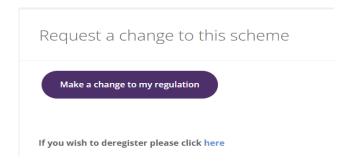
The Manage users section shows you who has used the code and how many licences you have free. If someone is no longer working for your firm, you can remove them from here and the licence becomes free for another Registered Valuer to use. If you need more licences, you can purchase additional ones from here.





### I am looking to make a change to my Regulated Firm, what do I do?

Within the Manage section, you will find the button 'Make a change to my Regulation'. Click on this to inform RICS Regulation of any changes to your Regulated firm - including things like changing your office address, you no longer require a particular scheme, additional Directors, change of a trading name, change of a Contact Officer or a Responsible Principal. You will also find the link to the de registration form on this page if your firm needs to de register from RICS Regulation for any reason.



#### How can I download a copy of the Firm Certificate?

The Firm Certificate is now available under the Regulation section of MyAccount. Under "Your Regulation" you will see a certificate button where you are able to download your firm certificate. If you have selected a scheme that also has a certificate, you are able to download that in the same way.





# What is Valuer Registration?

Valuer Registration is a risk monitoring and quality assurance program, which checks compliance with the Red Book.

For further guidance and support on what Valuer Registration entails, please click here.

#### How do I apply for the Valuer Registration Scheme?

If you are an RICS qualified professional, you can register for the Valuer Registration (VR) scheme by clicking the purple apply button next to Valuer Registration

Valuer Registration i



**Eligibility** – In this section you will be asked to:

- Enter your sponsorship code (if you are sponsored member).
- Update your Valuation Activity Please choose the relevant countries and employer(s) for whom you are undertaking valuation work.
- Eligibility Summary You will be asked to review your answers and ensure it is all correct.

#### Useful Hint: If you cannot see your employer on the list, please contact us here.

Please note depending on what information we hold for the employer, we may ask additional questions in relation to:

- Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) Click <u>here</u> for further guidance.
- Complaints Handling Procedure (CHP) Click <u>here</u> for further guidance.

**Survey** – In this section you will be asked to provide information regarding:

- Claims Received
- Complaints Received
- Valuation Time
- Valuation Assets

Useful Hint: To see how far along you are in the application, please view the Progress Bar on the right-hand side.

**Payment** – If you are a non-sponsored member, you will be asked to pay the Valuer Registration Fee. Once payment has been made, the data submitted will be reviewed by our Regulation Team. If any further information is required by the Regulation Team, they will be in contact.

How much do I need to pay for Valuer Registration?



The fee you will need to pay varies depending on whether you will be sponsored or not and the country you are based in.

Please see fee scale for Valuer Registration

#### Is the charge a one-off fee or will it be an annual requirement?

The fee to join Valuer Registration is an annual fee. The annual fee will be due at renewal.

#### Why am I not showing as a sponsored member?

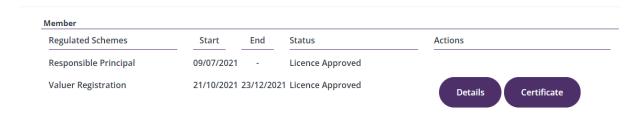
In order to become a sponsored member, please speak to your firm's Contact Officer, who can provide you with the sponsorship code.

#### I am looking to de-register from the Valuer Registration Scheme, what do I do?

In order to de-register from the Valuer Registration Scheme, please complete the form <a href="mailto:regulation@rics.org">here</a>. Once completed, please return by email to: <a href="mailto:regulation@rics.org">regulation@rics.org</a>

#### How can I download a copy of the Valuer Registration (VR) Certificate?

The Valuer Registration Certificate for members is now available. Next to your Valuer Registration details, you will see the certificate button where you can download your certificate.

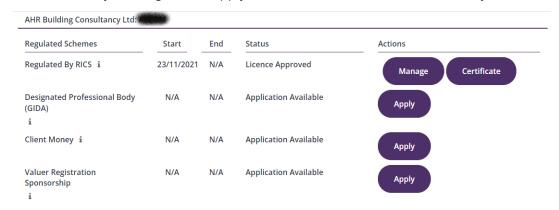


# How do I register my firm for the Designated Professional Body (DPB) Scheme for General Insurance Distribution (UK)?

Before you start your application, you need to ensure that you have read and understood the Designated Professional Body Rules.

If you did not apply for the Designated Professional Body scheme during the firm's registration for RICS regulation, you can apply for it separately. This will then become part of your firm's renewal.

This is done by clicking on the apply button next to the relevant scheme you wish to apply for.



When applying for the DPB scheme you will be asked to provide details on:



- Professional Indemnity Insurance
- Conduct
- Complaints
- General Insurance Distribution Activities

The Insurance Distribution Directive requires us to collect information about your firm's shareholders and close links. This information will be reviewed as part of this registration and then deleted.

Please complete and upload the Shareholders and close links information form

Useful Hint: The Designated Professional Body Application will not proceed forward unless the "Shareholders and close links information form" is attached.

#### **DPB Annual Fee**

All firms are liable to pay an annual fee to RICS.

Total number of principals/directors within a firm	Annual Fee
1	£225
2-4	£240
5-9	£420
10-24	£1,260
25-49	£3,150
50+	£3,150

# **RICS Client Money Protection Scheme**

The RICS Client Money Protection for Residential Agents scheme has been approved by Government under <u>The Client Money Protection Schemes for Property Agents (Approval and Designation of Schemes) Regulations 2018</u>. This means that RICS registered firms holding money in the areas covered by the regulations will have met the requirements under The Client Money Protection Scheme for Property Agents Regulations (2018) to belong to an approved scheme.

For further information please visit here.

#### How do I declare to RICS that my firm is holding clients' money?

As above, you can apply for the Clients' Money scheme by clicking the apply button next to that scheme and let us know what date you started to hold Client Money.



Regulated Schemes	Start	End	Status	Actions
Regulated By RICS i	23/11/2021	N/A	Licence Approved	Manage Certificate
Designated Professional Body (GIDA) i	N/A	N/A	Application Available	Apply
Client Money i	N/A	N/A	Application Available	Apply
Valuer Registration Sponsorship	N/A	N/A	Application Available	Apply

If your firm no longer holds clients' money, then please complete the section "Request a change to the scheme" which is found by clicking on the Manage button.

#### RICS Client Money Protection Scheme – Is there a fee?

All regulated firms who hold clients' money pay a regulatory review fee on an annual basis. The income generated from these fees covers the operational costs of the client money regulatory review visit programme. The fee is set based on the number of directors/principals in each firm, which includes both RICS members and non-member individuals.

The invoice also includes a levy that is collected for the clients' money protection scheme. All regulated firms that hold clients' money will also pay the relevant levy.

Please see levy table below:

Total Principals in firm	Total Levy for all firms holding client money but NOT for residential property agency work in England from 1 April 2019	Total Levy for firms holding client money for residential property agency work in England from 1 April 2019	Total Regulatory Review Fee
1	£64.50	£214.50	£225
2-4	£129	£279	£500
5-9	£483.75	£633.75	£1,400
10-24	£913.75	£1,063.75	£3,500
25-49	£2365	£2,515	£6,750
50+	£4837.50	£4987.50	£14,500



#### How can I download a copy of the Client Money Protection Scheme Certificate?

The Client Money Protection Scheme Certificate is now available. Under "Your Regulation" you will have access to the Client Money Protection Scheme Certificate. This certificate is only available to firms that are holding Clients' Money for residential property agency work in England.

Regulated Schemes	Start	End	Status	Actions
Regulated By RICS i	N/A	17/05/2022	Licence Approved	Manage
Valuer Registration Sponsorship i	19/05/2021	19/05/2021	Licence Approved	
Client Money (Residential) i	N/A	17/05/2022	Licence Approved	Certificate
Designated Professional Body (GIDA)	N/A	N/A	Application Available	Apply

#### **Annual Returns**

#### How do I renew my firm's Regulated status?

The contact officer will receive an email 28 days before the end date displayed on their firm's details. You will need to log in to your Regulation section on MyAccount and check that your firm's details are up to date.

- Check all of the schemes that your firm is approved for are still required
- Check the number of Directors/Principals are correct
- Check the list of Member Directors/Principals is correct
- Check the addresses of all offices are correct
- Check if any offices need to be removed or added
- Check the Countries that you are providing Surveying services in
- Check the Responsible Principal is correct

If any changes to the above need to be made, you should proceed to the section 'Renew your scheme'.

You will see your renewal under this section with the Eligibility section highlighted.

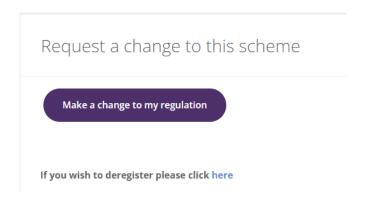


Click on to the eligibility section and you will see the option to 'Make a change to my regulation'. This will allow you to let the Regulation team know what changes need to be made to your firm.



Anything that needs to be updated on your firm will need to be done before you go ahead with completing your return. If you move past this page without confirmation that the changes have been made, this could affect the fees that you are charged at submission.

If your firm needs to de register from being Regulated by RICS, you can click on the link in this section that will take you to the de registration application. Complete and return that form to regulation@rics.org



When you receive confirmation that all the updates have been made, check that they are correct and proceed with completing your return in the same way that your registration was completed.

#### How do I get a new certificate?

The Firm Certificate is now available under the Regulation section of MyAccount. Under "Your Regulation" you will see a certificate button where you are able to download your firm certificate. If you have selected a scheme that also has a certificate, you are able to download that in the same way. Please note, your new certificate date won't update until the old one has expired.



