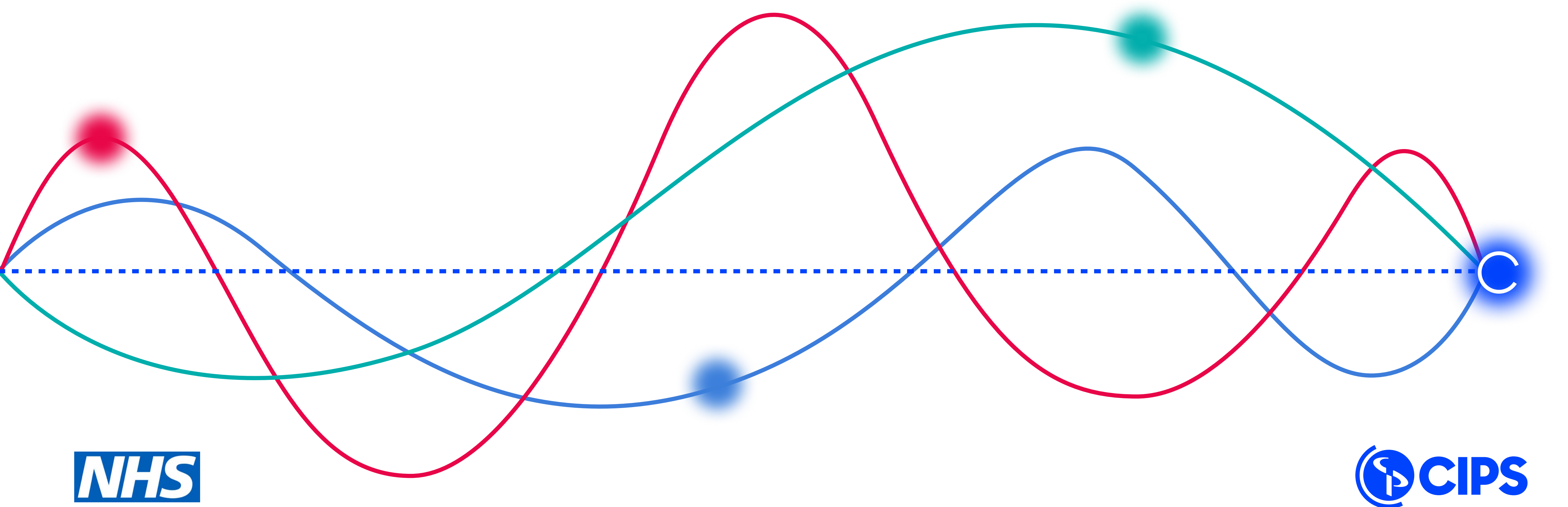


FIND YOUR PATHWAY TO MCIPS

NHS-CIPS Academy



Why MCIPS?

Demonstrate your expertise, enhance your credibility, and accelerate your career with the internationally recognised gold standard for procurement professionals.

CIPS is an official partner of the NHS – CIPS Academy making MCIPS achievable by delivering two of its learning pathways*

Applied Learning Pathway

Work-based learning programme with no exams required >>>

Management Entry Route (MER)

An experienced-based assessment route perfect for senior leaders >>>

*These pathways are fully funded except for your annual membership fees.



MCIPS gives you a
**distinct
advantage**

when it comes to
advancing your career



>52%
of employers request
MCIPS when recruiting



CHOOSE YOUR PATHWAY

Bands 4 - 8C

If you have 2+ years experience, answer these quick questions to find your ideal MCIPS pathway and gain industry-wide recognition.

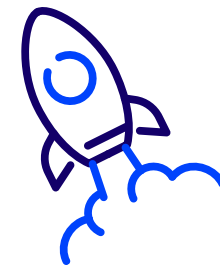
1

Do you already have a CIPS Level 4 Diploma?

Yes

APPLIED LEARNING PATHWAY

DIRECT ENTRY
APPLIED LEARNING
ADVANCED PRACTITIONER
(LEVELS 5-6)



- ✓ No assessment
- ✓ Non-exam pathway
- ✓ Work-based learning
- ✓ Approximately 18 months
- ✓ Awarded full MCIPS accreditation

Not yet - - ->

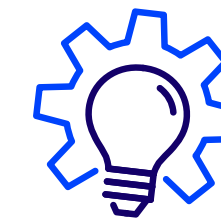
2

Do you have 4+ years procurement experience?

Yes

APPLIED LEARNING PATHWAY

ASSESSMENT FIRST
APPLIED LEARNING
ADVANCED PRACTITIONER
(LEVELS 5-6)



By completing the online assessment and demonstrating at least 9 of 11 managerial competencies (confirmed by your manager), you could qualify for direct entry into the Advanced Practitioner pathway.

Not yet - - - - -

APPLIED LEARNING PATHWAY

APPLIED LEARNING
PRACTITIONER
(LEVEL 4)



- ✓ Non-exam pathway
- ✓ Work-based learning
- ✓ Approximately 12 months
- ✓ Awarded the equivalent of a CIPS Level 4 Diploma

CHOOSE YOUR PATHWAY

Bands 8D or above

If you have 4+ years experience, answer this quick question to find your ideal MCIPS pathway and gain industry-wide recognition.

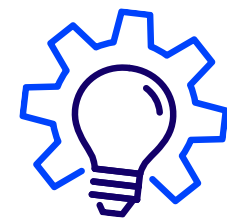
1

Do you have
5+ years of strategic
leadership in procurement/
commercial roles?

Not yet Yes

APPLIED LEARNING PATHWAY

ASSESSMENT FIRST APPLIED LEARNING ADVANCED PRACTITIONER (LEVELS 5–6)



By completing the online assessment and demonstrating at least 9 of 11 managerial competencies (confirmed by your manager), you could qualify for direct entry into the Advanced Practitioner pathway.

- ✓ Application via online assessment
- ✓ Non-exam pathway
- ✓ Work-based learning
- ✓ Approximately 18 months
- ✓ Awarded full MCIPS accreditation

MANAGEMENT ENTRY ROUTE (MER)

MANAGEMENT ENTRY ROUTE



By completing a CIPS Affiliate Membership application and passing the CIPS Ethics Test within the last 12 months, you could qualify for the Management Entry Route pathway.

- ✓ Evidence portfolio submission
- ✓ No exams or coursework
- ✓ Panel interview
- ✓ Approximately 4 months
- ✓ Awarded full MCIPS accreditation



Find out more about
[CIPS Applied Learning Pathway](#) ↗

Find out more about the
[Management Entry Route](#) ↗



QUESTIONS

Applied Learning Pathway (FAQs)

- 1** I have completed the CIPS Level 4 Diploma and would like to start the Applied Learning Advanced Practitioner programme how do I start?

You are eligible for this programme, so to start the pathway please contact nhs@cips.org.

- 2** I have not completed CIPS level 4 Diploma and have less than 4 years' experience, what is the best pathway for me?

We recommend you start your learning journey on our Applied Learning Practitioner programme (Level 4) contact nhs@cips.org.

- 3** I am eligible (I have 4+ years experience) and interested in the Applied Learning pathway but I don't have the CIPS Level 4 Diploma (or equivalent) so what is the best option for me.

We recommend with your experience that you complete the CIPS competency assessment, and you could qualify for entry on the Applied Learning Advanced Practitioner programme (Levels 5 & 6). Contact nhs@cips.org to find out more.

- 4** How is the Applied Learning pathway (Advanced and Practitioner) funded?

Your pathway is funded by the NHS-CIPS Academy, except for your CIPS Membership fee. The competency assessment for those staff who meet eligibility criteria (i.e. who have 4+ years' experience) and have been endorsed by the Academy, will have applications funded through the NHS-CIPS Academy.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Applied Learning Pathway

What is the Competency Assessment?

- Our competency assessment has been designed to get you on the right learning pathway from the start. It's an online assessment with multiple choice questions and takes approximately 90–120 minutes to complete.
- If you pass the assessment you will be onboarded to the next available Applied Learning Advanced Practitioner programme.
- If you are unsuccessful in the assessment, your learning pathway will start with the CIPS Applied Learning L4 Practitioner programme or you can reapply after 12 months.

Please note, the Academy will not fund any reapplications but will fund any applicable, subsequent learning pathway.



QUESTIONS

Management Entry Route (FAQs)

- 1** I have 5+ years of senior leadership experience and would like to take the MER pathway. What is my first step?

To take this route you need to apply, and before that you will need to join CIPS as an Affiliate member and have successfully completed the CIPS Ethics Test in the past 12 months.

- 2** How is the MER pathway funded?

If your application is successful and you are endorsed by the Academy your MER pathway will be funded by the NHS-CIPS Academy. CIPS membership must be funded by you. As a member of CIPS you will have access to the Ethics Test free of charge.

- 3** If I fail on the MER pathway what are my options?

Those unsuccessful at the panel interview will be assigned a development plan for up to 3 areas. Learners will need to complete the plan within 90 calendar days which will be reassessed to receive a final outcome.

Please note, in line with the NHS-CIPS Academy policy, resit costs are not included in central funding, and the learner will need to pay for the development cost directly.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Management Entry Route

Once you have had your initial screening conversation with your manager, you will then be able to apply for your CCF endorsement. You will need to:

- Contact england.ccf-people@nhs.net with a copy of your CV demonstrating you have held a senior leadership position in a procurement function for a minimum of 5 years.
- Provide a current organogram.

Please note, endorsement and central funding will only be available to very senior leaders and will be at the discretion of the CCF team.

NHS-CIPS Academy

Next steps

Once you've found the right pathway, speak with your line manager to begin the application process.

Need help? Contact the NHS-CIPS Academy team at:
nhs@cips.org

