

THE ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY

SCHEDULE 2 TO THE ROYAL CHARTER OF INCORPORATION: THE REGISTER OF CHARTERED DATA SCIENCE PROFESSIONALS

1 Preamble

Pursuant to Article 3 (x) of the Charter of the Royal Statistical Society (hereinafter referred to as the Society), which has granted the power to create and maintain a Register of Chartered practitioners in the methodology and application of Statistics and which already provides for Chartered Statisticians, this Schedule establishes the conditions of registration and the membership and constitution of the Chartered Data Science Professionals' and Data Science Professionals Registration Authority (hereinafter referred to as the RA) to be created to operate for the public benefit, the Register of Chartered Data Science Professionals and Data Science Professionals (hereinafter referred to as the Register), and provides the method of operation of this Register. The RA is the agent for the Society's Council acting under the Society's delegated authority.

2 The Register

- (a) All data science professionals who satisfy the standards of knowledge, experience and professional integrity at the appropriate level, shall be entitled to apply for registration as Chartered Data Science Professionals (hereinafter referred to by the post-nominal designation of CDSP) and those admitted to the Register (the Registrants) shall be entitled to use those post-nominals as appropriate).
- (b) All data science professionals who satisfy the standards of knowledge, experience and professional integrity at the appropriate level, shall be entitled to apply for registration as Data Science Professional (hereinafter referred to by the post-nominal designation of CDSP) and those admitted to the Register (the Registrants) shall be entitled to use those post-nominals as appropriate).
- (c) The RA shall assess and recognise any organisation/education provider applying for accreditation of a programme or series of programmes that satisfy the standards of knowledge, experience and professional integrity at the appropriate level and shall be entitled for awardees/graduates to apply for registration as Data Science Professional (hereinafter referred to by the post-nominal designation of DSP) and those admitted to the Register (the Registrants) shall be entitled to use those post-nominals as appropriate).
- (c) Applicants to the Register are required to be members of either the Society or of any one of the organisations licensed by, and represented on, the RA. Such licence shall allow the licensed organisation to admit its members to, and remove them from, the Register subject to the oversight of the RA.
- (d) This registration shall be recognition, in the public interest, of the ability to practise in the field of data science at the appropriate level, and of the evidence of sufficient knowledge, experience and competence in so doing. The evidence

provided in support of a registration application shall detailed in the Regulations of the Society.

- (e) Applicants for entry onto the Register shall satisfy the RA that they meet the conditions for entry set out in this Schedule and the Regulations of the Society, by providing such evidence of attainment as may be required.
- (f) The applicants to, and the Registrants of, both the Chartered Data Science Professional Register and the Data Science Professional Register shall pay, respectively, such application and annual registration fees to the licensed organisation or directly to the RA as the RA may determine in order to meet the costs of operating the Register.
- (g) The RA may exercise, in its discretion, the right to request a licensed organisation to hold a disciplinary enquiry and to apply appropriate sanctions as provided by their existing guidelines, in situations where a Registrant's professional competencies or behavior fall short of the required standard. In the alternative, the RA may conduct its own enquiry.
- (h) The RA shall also provide a Code of Professional Conduct, or approve an existing Code (of the relevant Licensee), with which it shall expect the Registrants to abide. Such a code shall also require continuing professional development and the periodic submission of substantiating evidence thereof according to guidelines published by the RA.

3 The Registration Authority

- (i) The Council of the Society shall establish a sub-committee (reporting to the Council), to be entitled the Registration Authority (the RA), to implement and manage the Register. The Society Council shall grant the RA such delegated authority to act on its behalf as shall be consistent with the requirement of reporting its proposals and actions to the Society Council given that the Society bears the ultimate responsibility for all matters concerned with its operation under its Charter.
- (ii) The RA shall comprise an appointed independent Chair and independent Deputy Chair and, in addition, a minimum of one and a maximum of two nominated representatives of the Society as voting members who shall represent the interests of the Society for such periods of time as the Society shall decide. Furthermore, it shall invite one representative from each licensee (or, where relevant, a member organisation to sit as a voting member on the RA. Non-voting advisers (such as a lawyer) may be invited to attend some or all of its meetings.
- (iii) The administration of the Register may be undertaken by an agent such as a suitable company or person as selected by the Society under a five year renewable contract with the Society and being subject to the direction of the RA. If the contract between the Society and its agent is not renewed on any occasion, the Society shall seek another suitable company or person with which to contract on similar terms.
- (iv) The RA shall be responsible for agreeing and regularly reviewing the terms of registration, for deciding who shall be admitted and removed from the Registers (or licensing another organisation so to do) according to criteria approved by

the Society from time to time, for regularly assessing the operation of licences and for admitting and removing them where necessary, and for liaising and communicating with all interested parties. The RA shall also provide oversight and advice of the application of any Code of Professional Conduct, including the requirement of continuing professional development, in respect of the Registrants.

- (v) Normally the Society, having conferred delegated authority upon the RA, shall only intervene in the operation of the RA in matters of conflict of interest or disagreement over interpretation of rules. The RA may have its processes and procedures regularly reviewed and audited by an independent organisation having equivalent professional standing and Charter-awarding capabilities.

FAQs

- If you already hold the AdvDSP certificate or are in the process of applying for this certificate. Should the Second Schedule be approved, any member already awarded the title will automatically have this title amended to Chartered Data Science Professional and will be entitled to use the designatory letters, CDSP after their name.
- The Second Schedule mentions a professional Register, will there be one central register and if so how will this be managed?
There will not be one central register, each licensed partner of the Alliance will already have their own professional register and will be responsible for maintaining their register with up-to-date details of those awarded data science awards. This information will be available to the public and upon request should it ever be requested.
- Is there a timeline as to how long it will take the Privy Council to agree to the Second Schedule?
The Privy Council have a 3-stage process when reviewing applications and the timeline is dependent on a number of factors, including having to take into account any backlog they may have. Currently the RSS does not have a specific timeframe as to when an outcome would be reached.
- Is the Alliance for Data Science professional a separate learned Society?
No, it is a registration authority of the RSS, similar to the RSS Professional Affairs Committee (PAC) that is responsible for the statistical standards and pathway. However, the Alliance have mandated that all individual applications be handled and assessed via the appropriate partner body they hold membership with, with the relevant assessment panel leading the assessment process. For the RSS, this would be PAC.
- I have questions not answered here or concerns about the Second Schedule, who do I contact?
If you have any questions about the Second Schedule and the Chartered Data Science Professional, please contact out Head of Professional Standards, Ricky McGowan at R.mcgowan@rss.org.uk
Alternatively, you can join one of our [membership webinars](#) or email pa@rss.org.uk to see if you are eligible for any of our statistical or data science awards.