



INSTITUTE OF PROJECT PROFESSIONALS

Credential Use and Post-Nominal

What AIPP, MIPP and FIPP mean, who may use them, and when they stop



This policy governs how a person describes their the Institute of Project Professionals (IPP) membership, grade, post-nominal and qualifications. It applies to every member and to every former member, and it exists because a post-nominal after somebody's name is the most visible thing IPP issues and the easiest to keep using after it has stopped being true.

1. What this policy owns

It owns what a person may claim. It does not define membership status, which is IPP-GOV-003, and it does not decide what appears on the public directory, the Passport or a verification page, which is MS-LEG-004. Where this document names a status it is using GOV-003's definition, not making one.

A qualification and a membership are different things and this document keeps them apart throughout. A qualification is a fact about something a person did on a date. A membership is a fact about the present. One expires; the other does not.

2. The credentials

Credential	Who may use it	From	Until
AIPP	A member holding an active Associate grade	Admission to the grade	The grade stops being active
MIPP	A member holding an active Member grade	Admission to the grade	The grade stops being active
FIPP	A member holding an active Fellow grade	Conferral of Fellowship	The grade stops being active

- Use the highest active post-nominal, not several. A Fellow is FIPP, not AIPP MIPP FIPP.
- A post-nominal is personal. An organisation, team, product or agency may not use one, and may not describe itself as holding IPP membership because its people do.
- Student and Affiliate carry no post-nominal. An Affiliate may say they are an Affiliate member of IPP working toward a qualification, which is true, and may not imply a grade they have not been admitted to.

3. How to describe it

These are the forms IPP considers accurate. They are examples rather than a required wording, and anything that says the same thing plainly is fine.

Where	Accurate
After a name	Jane Smith MIPP
CV or biography	Member of the Institute of Project Professionals (MIPP)
Email signature	The post-nominal after the name, with the grade named in full below if there is room
LinkedIn	The grade name as IPP publishes it, with the IPP member number if a verifier is likely to want it
A bid or proposal	The active grade, and separately any IPP qualifications actually awarded, with the year
After membership ends	Award in Project Management Essentials (IPP), 2026. No post-nominal, and no statement or implication of current membership

Do not write "active" as part of the credential. A grade is either held or it is not, a reader can check it in seconds on the public directory, and a person who prints "MIPP, active" today is printing it a year after they lapse.

4. What may not be claimed

- A post-nominal the person is not currently entitled to, including one held previously.
- That an IPP grade or qualification is chartered, statutory, licensed, regulated, or equivalent to an academic award, unless IPP has published a statement that expressly supports the claim.
- Affiliation with, accreditation by, or endorsement from another professional body.
- That IPP membership guarantees competence, suitability for a particular engagement, or an employment outcome, or that IPP endorses the person's work.
- Anything supported by an altered badge, certificate, verification record or QR code.

IPP holds itself to this too. The Institute does not describe its own qualifications as regulated or chartered, and does not present a designation it has not created. A body that prohibits a claim in its members while making it in its marketing has no standing to enforce the prohibition.

5. When a membership stops

The post-nominal stops when the grade stops. The qualification does not.

State	Post-nominal	Qualifications
Active	May be used	May be stated
In the payment grace period	May be used; the grade is still active	May be stated
Lapsed	Stops immediately, and resumes only when IPP confirms reinstatement	May be stated
Suspended	Stops for the period of the suspension	May be stated unless the suspension concerns the assessment
Revoked	Stops permanently, subject to appeal	May be stated unless the revocation concerns the assessment
Resigned	Stops on the effective date	May be stated

A person whose membership has ended is not required to remove a qualification from anything. They are required to stop presenting a grade they no longer hold. The two are separated here because conflating them is what makes people either over-claim or quietly delete an achievement they earned.

6. Getting it wrong, and putting it right

Most incorrect use is a person who lapsed and forgot, or a colleague who copied a signature block. IPP's first step is to say so and ask for it to be corrected, and that is the end of nearly every case.

- IPP may ask a person to correct a description of their membership, and may correct anything IPP itself publishes.
- Where the use is deliberate or repeated after being raised, it is a matter for IPP-GOV-001, where misrepresenting membership is already a breach of the Code.
- Where a third party is misusing a person's credential, or a badge or certificate has been altered, IPP may say publicly that the record is not what it appears to be, and may withdraw a verification record under IPP-ASM-001.
- A person may challenge any decision under this policy through IPP-GOV-006.

7. Employers and verifiers

A grade tells a verifier that a person met a published standard and holds a current membership. It does not tell them the person is suitable for the role, currently employed anywhere, licensed, chartered, or competent at a particular task. IPP publishes the standard so that a verifier can decide for themselves what it is worth.

The public directory and certificate verification confirm what they display and nothing beyond it. Absence from an opt-in directory is not evidence that a person is not a member.

8. What has to be true in the platform

Stated here rather than in an internal note, because a rule about stopping a credential is only as good as the system that stops displaying it. This section records what is outstanding and empties

as the work is done.

8.1 In place

- **The post-nominal stops with the grade.** A member's designation is derived from their tier and their status at a single write point and is never set independently, so it cannot survive the grade it belongs to.
- **Every state in Section 5 can be recorded.** Membership status holds active, lapsed, suspended, revoked and resigned. There is deliberately no separate state for the payment grace period, because Section 5 says a member in it is still active.
- **Status changes are recorded.** Each change keeps the state before and after, the grade before and after, the reason, who made it and what triggered it, which is what IPP-GOV-006 Section 9 requires of any decision affecting a person.
- A member's own record shows them their current grade and their status, because the commonest cause of an inaccurate claim is a member who does not know their membership ended.
- **Every state can be imposed.** A membership can be suspended, reinstated, revoked or recorded as resigned, each requiring a stated reason that is given to the member. Revocation takes two different reviewers, because IPP-GOV-004 Section 5 reserves any revocation to the Governance Board. Suspension takes one, because IPP-GOV-008 Section 9 reaches it only after a written notice and an agreed plan have both already failed.

8.2 Outstanding

- A member cannot end their own membership from their account. A resignation is recorded by IPP on the member's instruction, which works and is not the same thing as the member being able to walk away without asking anybody.

Ending a membership does not remove the person's access to their own competency record, CPD log or evidence. That is deliberate and follows from what IPP publishes about who a Passport belongs to. A grade is the Institute's to withdraw; a professional record is not.

9. Review

Reviewed annually by the Governance Board, and on any change to the membership grades, the status model, or what is displayed publicly. Its edition, revision and date are on its cover.