Royal Academy of Engineering

Visiting Professors Scheme:
Bringing industry into academia

**Essential applicant guidance document
2026**

Deadline: 20 April 2026 at 4pm

@ This is Engineering

Essential Applicant Guidance Document

Contents

1. Introduction to the Academy

The Royal Academy of Engineering creates and leads a community of outstanding experts and innovators to engineer better lives. As a charity and a Fellowship, we deliver public benefit from excellence in engineering and technology and convene leading businesspeople, entrepreneurs, innovators and academics across engineering and technology. As a National Academy, we provide leadership for engineering and technology, and independent, expert advice to policymakers in the UK and beyond.

We have three goals:

- Sustainable and Innovative Economy, where sustainability drivers, innovative industries and resilient infrastructures are aligned to drive growth and productivity that will support better lives for all.
- Technology Improving Lives, where technology in all its forms is used to meet the most important human needs, avoid harm, support fairer societies and break down barriers to opportunity.
- Engineering Community Fit for the Future, where our community reflects society in its diversity, commits to creating inclusive cultures to help drive engineering excellence, and has the skills to meet future needs safely, securely and ethically, and to keep pace with innovation.

Everything we do is underpinned by our values:

- Progressive Leadership
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion
- Excellence for Impact
- Collaboration First
- Creativity & Innovation

Funder: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT)

The Visiting Professors Scheme is enabled by funding from the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology.

2. Programme Overview

The scheme supports the appointment of experienced industrial engineers, entrepreneurs or consultants as Visiting Professors in engineering (and related) academic units (for example, faculties, schools or departments) at UK universities for three Academic years.
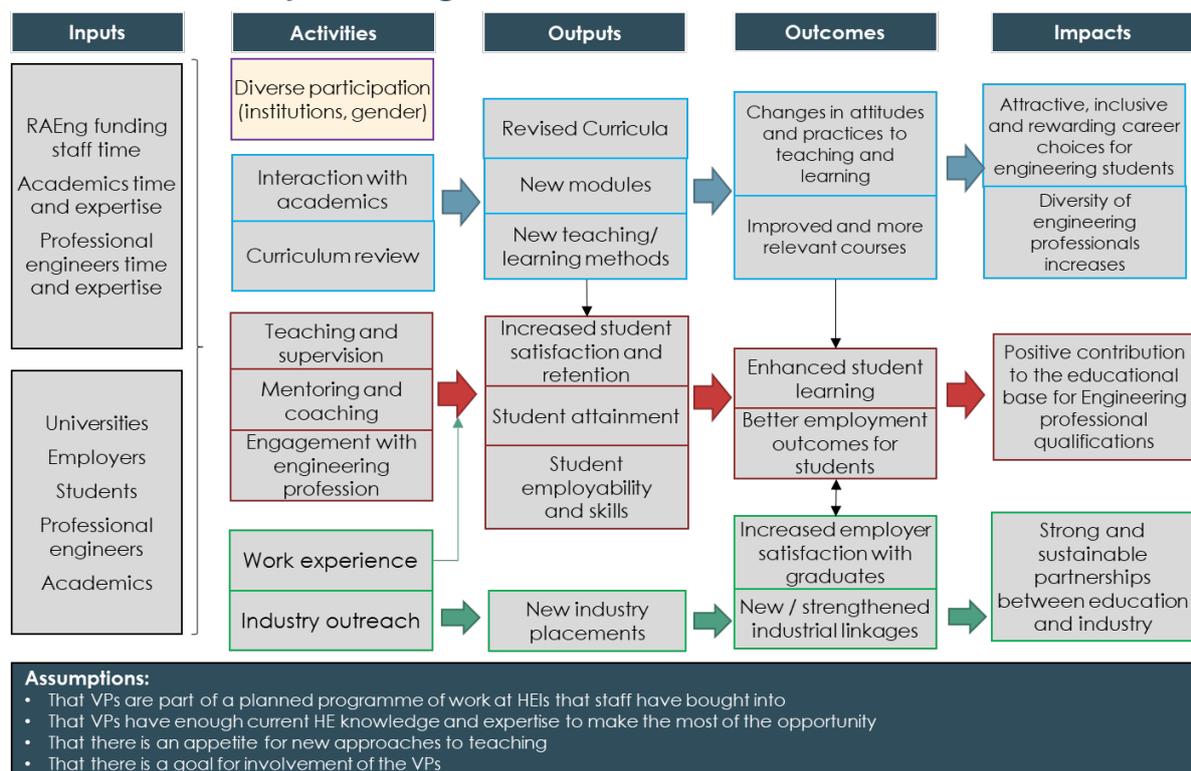
This industry-into-academia initiative aims to utilise the knowledge and experience of the Visiting Professor (VP) to enhance student learning as well as improve the employability and skills of UK engineering graduates while strengthening university partnerships with industry.

It does not directly support research interactions between industry and academia, for which separate schemes exist.

The main objectives of the scheme are to:

a) Facilitate closer collaboration between industry and universities.
b) Inspire the next generation of engineers for the benefit of UK industry.
c) Provide advice and guidance to universities on degree programme strategies to align with industry needs.
d) Deliver teaching and learning on relevant engineering degree programmes.
e) Provide students with real-life industrial contexts and scenarios.

VP scheme Theory of Change

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impacts
RAEng funding staff time; Academics time and expertise; Professional engineers time and expertise	Diverse participation (institutions, gender); Interaction with academics; Curriculum review	Revised Curricula; New modules; New teaching/ learning methods	Changes in attitudes and practices to teaching and learning; Improved and more relevant courses	Attractive, inclusive and rewarding career choices for engineering students; Diversity of engineering professionals increases
Universities; Employers; Students; Professional engineers; Academics	Teaching and supervision; Mentoring and coaching; Engagement with engineering profession	Increased student satisfaction and retention; Student attainment; Student employability and skills	Enhanced student learning; Better employment outcomes for students	Positive contribution to the educational base for Engineering professional qualifications
	Work experience; Industry outreach	New industry placements	Increased employer satisfaction with graduates; New / strengthened industrial linkages	Strong and sustainable partnerships between education and industry

Assumptions:
- That VPs are part of a planned programme of work at HEIs that staff have bought into
- That VPs have enough current HE knowledge and expertise to make the most of the opportunity
- That there is an appetite for new approaches to teaching
- That there is a goal for involvement of the VPs

While industry outreach is an important element, this should primarily be done by the university itself. The VP's role may include supporting this area, but only insofar as it complements the university's existing efforts and aligns with the broader theory of change. That is with current students that the VP is working with and not as part of the university recruitment.

Other aspects of the theory of change may provide valuable support to ongoing outreach activities; however, the VP award should not be used as a mechanism to address or rectify the university's responsibilities in this area directly. The main priority should remain on supporting students currently enrolled on the courses.

3. Diversity and Inclusion

The Royal Academy of Engineering is committed to diversity and inclusion and welcomes applications from all underrepresented groups across engineering. It is the Academy's policy to ensure that no applicant is disadvantaged or receives less favourable treatment because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

Before you commence your application, you will be asked a few diversity monitoring questions to help the Academy monitor and assess our diversity and inclusion policy. It will only be used for statistical purposes with access restricted to staff involved in processing and monitoring the data. No information will be published or used in any way that identifies individuals. The Academy will retain personal information as per our Data Retention Policy in line with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018.

The information will be treated as strictly confidential, nonattributable and will not be seen by anyone involved in any selection processes. You will need to complete the diversity monitoring section before you can submit the grant application form, but you can choose "prefer not to say" as responses.

4. National Security

The Academy is the UK's National Academy for engineering and technology and seeks to increase the potential positive benefit that innovations can have for society, whilst reducing the risks of harm. Hence, in all our activities, we seek to minimise the risk that technology developed as part of work that we support could be misused by a foreign state to build a capacity to target UK interests in a hostile fashion or to control or repress their population. There is a risk that for some grant activities, failure to protect IP and a lack of due diligence into collaborators could result in sensitive technology being transferred to and misused by a hostile or

repressive foreign state. As such all applicants should ensure they are familiar with the Academy's [Policy on National Security-Related Risks.](#)

5.   Use of generative AI tools in funding applications and assessment

The Academy has aligned with other UK funders around the use of generative AI tools in funding applications through the Research Funders Policy Group [joint statement.](#)

Regarding the use of AI, applicants are fully responsible for all the content presented in their grant applications. The grant process does not penalise the use of generative AI tools, but it is imperative to ensure that the application reflects the applicant's own voice and ideas. It is not acceptable to solely rely on generative AI tools to write the entire grant application from start to finish. While these tools may be used to assist in various aspects, the application must primarily represent the applicant's own work.

Applicants must provide clear acknowledgement if they have used generative AI tools in the process of writing their grant applications. This includes disclosing the name of the tool used and describing how it was utilized. The following style should be employed for referencing:

I acknowledge the use of [*insert AI system(s), version number and link*] to generate materials for background research, styling, proofreading, etc.

6. Grant programme details

Our industry-into-academia initiative aims to utilise the experience of VPs (with backgrounds as industrialists, entrepreneurs, consultants or innovators) to enhance teaching and learning as well as the employability skills of UK engineering undergraduate degree students, whilst strengthening universities' external partnerships with industry. The Academic champion (as a professional academic) has a crucial role to play in partnerships with industry by communicating developments in engineering higher education to the VP as appropriate.

The intention is that VPs act as 'change agents' in aligning and updating the teaching and learning activities of engineering higher education departments with modern educational practice and the needs of modern industry. We require a minimum of 12 days per year from the prospective

VP over the three-years (Academic Years from 1 September 2026 until 31 July 2029).

All applications must be started and submitted by the lead academic at the host university, which we call the Academic Champion (AC), and not the prospective Visiting Professor.

This award does not allow,

- research
- PhD supervision
- pure project supervision on undergraduate projects
- the VP being used during recruitment events
- pure curriculum review/revision.

If successful in the application process, both the VP and the AC receive networking opportunities, including:

- The Academy induction day on **Friday, 11 September 2026** for new awardees (both Academic Champions and Visiting Professors) at the Royal Academy of Engineering. AC and VP attendance is **mandatory**.
- The annual visiting professors conference, which provides a valuable space for sharing ideas, best practices, and networking with like-minded people. This year's conference is on **Friday, 27 November 2026** at the Royal Academy of Engineering. AC and VP attendance is **mandatory** for every year that the VP is active in the scheme.
- One-hour virtual coffee mornings throughout the year with a talk and then into breakout rooms for networking.

7. Eligibility criteria

Clear and comprehensive eligibility criteria, including any restrictions on holding multiple funding from the Academy

- Applications must be made by permanent staff from the UK host university with input from the nominated VP and the AC's Line Manager.
- The VP can only be funded for one post during the three-year award.
- Existing VPs (or those who have completed their three-year tenure) cannot apply for further funding to continue for a second term in that tenure.

- The VP cannot apply if they are already working with the university. This is about creating new links and work strands.
- The scheme requires that the VP can start their activities between 1 September and 31 October in the first year of the award.
- The VP must demonstrate the support that will be given by their employer.
- The nominated VP must be an experienced industrialist, entrepreneur or consultant working at an appropriate level within an engineering sector. Engineering is defined in its broadest sense, encompassing a range of diverse fields, including computer science, materials and other related subjects.
- Applicants and their nominated VP must be committed to the objectives of the scheme.
- Visiting Professors must be able to commit a minimum 12 days a year over the duration of the three-year award. This is spent engaging with the host university (either virtually or otherwise, equivalent to 12 days a year). Dates are fully flexible to best suit the needs of the university and the VP.
- The Academy is committed to diversity and inclusion. Nominations from post-92 universities, and for nominees from groups that are currently under-represented in the scheme and across engineering, are particularly encouraged.
- A university submitting more than one application must submit a strong case for a second application and ensure diversity considerations.
- Applications that are incomplete or do not adhere to the guidelines may be rejected.

8. Cost and funding guidelines

If necessary, funding is available for this award. The need must be demonstrated and justified but cannot exceed £10,000 (all inclusive) a year for the three-years of the award.

Eligible expenditure against the award is for:
- an honorarium or salary for VP. If the VP's time is supported by their employer, then the honorarium should be kept to a minimum
- travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses for the VP when visiting the university for activities relating to the VP programme

- travel costs for compulsory first-year induction and annual conferences can be included for both the VP and the Academic Champion

Non-eligible expenditure which the university should supply if needed are:

- o equipment
- o software
- o teaching resources
- o external events – other than related to the award as stated above
- o training.

A clear justification for the amounts must be given in the proposal covering essential requirements in the form of a budget. Include only the costs that are really needed, as underspending on this award could affect future applications from the university. The funds will be paid directly to the university.

9. What we expect during the award

Scheme Priorities

We expect the applications to be in line with the Academy's 2025 to 2030 strategy and our priorities of

- Promoting the integration of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within the curriculum of taught engineering programmes.
- Embedding diversity and inclusion principles into the design and delivery of engineering education.
- Advancing experience-led pedagogy in engineering degrees, such as problem-based and project-based active learning.
- Addressing skills gaps identified by employers, including practical experience, leadership and management abilities, business acumen, and communication and 'soft' skills.
- Enhancing curricula to foster creativity, design, and innovation, producing graduates with broad industry relevance and diverse expertise, including ethics, marketing, aesthetics, psychology, and sociology.

Reporting

The Academy requires the AC to submit a basic mid-year report and a full-annual report, prepared jointly with the VP. These reports should clearly show progress against the objectives outlined in the application. Each year, a financial statement comparing income with expenditure must also be provided.

It is the AC's responsibility to ensure the Academy receives satisfactory reports by the deadlines specified in the grant letter. Only the AC may upload these documents to the Academy portal. Access to relevant guidance and templates will be given to successful applicants.

University induction programme

As with all new members of staff, the host university must offer the VP a full induction programme.

Visiting Professor requirements

- The VP must supply a short biography (up to 100 words) and a photograph for publication on the Academy's website before the contract is issued.
- The VP must be available for a minimum of 12 working days (or equivalent) each year.

VP conference and induction

Both the Academic Champion (AC) and the VP are required to attend
- the Academy's VP induction in the first year
- all three Annual VP Conferences during the award period.

10.   Timeline and deadlines

This section clearly lays out the submission deadline, key dates, the assessment process timeline and start/end dates of the project.

The application round opens on **Wednesday, 25 February 2026**.

The application round closes **on Monday, 20 April 2026 at 4.00pm**.

The Academic Champion will be notified by **Monday, 13 July 2026**.

Your award, if successful, must start between **1 September 2026 and 31 October 2026**, and must be completed by **31 July 2029** as this is a three-year academic award.

11.   How to apply

The lead applicant (Academic Champion) from the host university must start and submit the application using the Academy's Grant Management System (GMS) at https://grants.raeng.org.uk. If you haven't registered before, sign up and create a profile. Please note, it may take around 10 minutes before you can log in after registering. Once logged in, choose 'start application' from the list of funding programmes.

Important: The application must be completed by three people: the lead applicant (Academic Champion), the Visiting Professor (VP), and the AC's Line Manager (LM). Each person is responsible for filling out their section before the submission deadline. The Academic Champion must make sure this is done.

The form has three sections and should take about one hour to finish, provided answers are prepared in advance and simply copied in. Guidance is available within the online system, but these notes offer extra detail. All three contributors should keep this document handy while completing their sections. The three sections available are shown below.
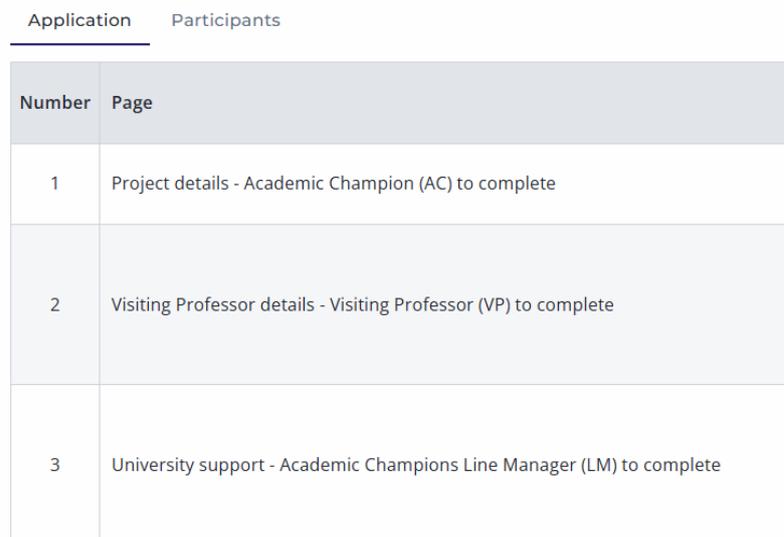
Application	Participants	

Number	Page
1	Project details - Academic Champion (AC) to complete
2	Visiting Professor details - Visiting Professor (VP) to complete
3	University support - Academic Champions Line Manager (LM) to complete

If you click on the Participants tab, as shown in the above image, the AC, will be asked to provide the email addresses for the VP (referred to as the co-applicant in the application process) and the line manager (referred to as the collaborator in the application process). **Note**: If the VP and/or LM already have an Academy account, then use the same email linked to their accounts.

The accounts registered to these email addresses will then be given access to their relevant section and read-only access to the other two sections.

We recommend that the VP and LM sign on to the system after they receive the automated email invitation, not before. Both should log in to the system and application form to make sure that they can access it by Monday, 6 April 2026 the latest and notify us of any issues. After that date, any potential access issues may not be rectified in time for the submission deadline, which is at 4.00pm on 20 April 2026.

Completing the Application Form

During the application process, you have the flexibility to save your progress at any stage and return to the form whenever needed. This allows you to answer questions in any order, and if you prefer, you may skip certain sections and revisit them later. It is advisable to familiarise yourself with the application steps early in the application process to gain a clear understanding of what is required.

Responsibilities of Each Contributor

- Academic Champion (AC): Responsible for completing section one of the application.
- Visiting Professor (VP): Responsible for completing section two of the application.
- Line Manager: Responsible for completing section three of the application.

Each contributor is required to submit their respective section once it has been completed. The sections may be filled out in any order, but all must be completed before the final submission. Once all three sections have been submitted, **a final submission button** will become available for **the Academic Champion**. This button must be clicked to complete the application process in its entirety.

In considering applications, the Academy will be guided by responses under **five criteria**, A to D in section 1 and E in section 2:

A)	The programme proposal	Completed by AC
B)	Implementation plan and finance	Completed by AC
C)	Impact	Completed by AC
D)	Teaching and learning modes	Completed by AC
E)	VP profile and supporting statement	Completed by VP

12.   Application form

At any stage in the application process, you can save your work and return to it later. You can answer the questions in any order you like, so you may skip some sections to return to later if you wish. We recommend viewing the application early on to understand what is required. You should also ensure that you have all the necessary documentation to hand when you start completing the application, such as a copy of the VP's CV, the employer's letter of support and video. Further information on what is required in these documents will be in the relevant questions below. The VP will upload the CV, and the AC will upload the supporting letter and video.

Both the University and the Academic Champion are responsible for conducting due diligence on all submissions made by the Visiting Professor, ensuring that the statements and CV contents are accurate and truthful. By submitting the application, you agree that this verification has been completed and that the information provided is correct. Any misrepresentation or falsification of information may result in termination and the return of any funds awarded to date per clause 16.c.v of the Academy Conditions of Award. The University and the Academic Champion are also responsible for maintaining the accuracy of this information throughout the Visiting Professor's tenure (Conditions of Award: clause 5.a.). See our basic terms and conditions

Section one – Academic Champion (Lead applicant) to complete

1. Name of the university

Information: full legal name of the university that would be used as part of any contract. If you do not know it, please find out, as an incorrect name could delay/affect your contract if awarded.

2. Post – '92 or pre –'92 university? [dropdown list]

Information: select one.

3. Engineering area [drop down list]

Information: drop down list of the area of engineering that the award will cover. You just need to select the most appropriate from the following:

A. Civil, construction and environmental
B. Materials and mining
C. Chemical and process
D. Aerospace
E. Transport and mechanical
F. Manufacturing and design
G. Electrical and electronic
H. Energy and power
I. Medical and bioengineering
J. Computing and communications
K. Special (including engineering management and multi-disciplinary).

4. Full name of the proposed VP [textbox]

Information: give the full name of the individual, together with prenominals (for example EurIng, Mrs, Ms, Mr, Professor, Dr etc.) and honorary postnominals **ONLY** (such as OBE, MBE, FREng, FRSE as appropriate **NOT** degrees or memberships of professional engineering institutions.

5. Project dates [date field]

Information: Please enter your proposed start and end dates. Visiting Professors must start their award activities between 1 September and 31 October 2026 with completion by 31 July 2029. All awards are for a **three-year academic period (NOT a calendar year)** and requests for a shorter/longer period will not be accepted.

6. Project title [textbox – up to 10 words]

Information: the project title should be no longer than 10 words and should be understandable to a non-specialist reader. The essence of the VPs engineering area should be captured in the title and should be as informative as possible.

7. The supporting statement from the Visiting Professor's employer

For employed Visiting Professors, this letter should confirm the employer's commitment to the scheme and how they will support this appointment. If the VP is self-employed/retired, then the VP must provide the letter. The letter should **not exceed two pages**, on letter-headed paper and must be submitted as a **PDF** on the GMS.

8. Application video

Overview

The application video must be no longer than three minutes and uploaded as an mp4 file. Alternatively, you may submit a pdf containing a direct link to the video on an external site like YouTube. Reviewers must be able to watch the video without creating an account, and it must not be password-protected or time-limited. The video should include the Visiting Professor, Academic Champion, and key team members, with the Visiting Professor leading most of the narrative. The video should be headshots of the people talking, not a slide show.

Visiting Professor (VP) Section

- The VP should introduce themselves and state their background.
- Clearly explain what they will contribute to the scheme.
- Describe the impact they expect to have after three years.
- Demonstrate through their experience and vision how impressive and motivating they will be for others involved in the scheme.

University Team Section

- The university team should articulate what they hope to achieve from the award and why it matters to them.
- Discuss the potential impacts of receiving the award.
- Emphasise the co-creation aspect of the collaboration, demonstrating that academic staff understand the value the VP brings and that expectations are clearly aligned.
- It could include other members of the University team who will be working with the VP.

A. Programme proposal - Assessment criteria – AC to complete

A1. Synopsis of proposal [textbox, up to 100 words]

Information: summarise your proposal with key highlights.

A2. Programme proposal [textbox, up to 400 words]

Information: Clearly explain how the nominated VP will work with your department, staff, and students, showing how their appointment will boost student learning and employability through the development of relevant knowledge, skills, and understanding. Highlight how the VP scheme will help create well-rounded engineering graduates capable of addressing social, economic, policy, and environmental challenges.

Describe the strategic value of appointing this VP for your department, including how it will help achieve your aims, strengthen external partnerships, and deliver lasting change. The programme proposal therefore needs to emphasise the change that will be brought about if the application is successful, and the arrangements that will be in place to sustain (or even enhance) the VPs legacy in the future after the award finishes.

B. Implementation plan and finance – Assessment criteria – AC to complete

B1. Describe the work plan, indicating the VPs activities and outputs during the period of the award [textbox, up to 500 word]

Information: The VP scheme requires a minimum of 12 days of VP engagement with the university annually. All proposed VP activities should be carefully planned, with a detailed, line-by-line timeline of activities, outputs, and outcomes for the three years included for review. Refer to the theory change model in section 2. Programme overview. Include here both **quantitative** and **qualitative** statements that will form **metrics** of the VP **activities** to be reported against annually. Include data such as student numbers, diversity data, number and different types of activities, resources, etc

B2. What is the total value of funding sought? [Table]

Information: funding of up to £10,000 (all inclusive) a year may be requested if justified, covering only honorarium/salary, travel, accommodation, and AC travel for Induction and Annual Conferences. Equipment and software costs are excluded. For questions, contact HigherEducation@raeng.org.uk . These payments are directly transferred to the university.

B3. If necessary, funding is available for this award. The need must be demonstrated and justified. [textbox up to 200 words]

Information: Eligible as stated in B2 above. Please give an accurate, fully justifiable breakdown cost for each of the three years. Do not overestimate as underspend could affect future applications from the university. You must provide an indicative timeline in appropriate detail to support your application.

If the VP's company salary remains unaffected by their participation, and they are not working on the VP role in their own time, a reduced honorarium should be requested, with a clear justification of all costs included in the application.

The AC should make suitable arrangements with their finance department and the VP on how the VP will be paid. If they are recruited as a fractional full-time member of staff, then the funds cannot be used to cover administrative or overhead elements that are not directly related to this scheme.

Note: We encourage you to make sure that the VP, AC and University finance team are satisfied with how the VP will be paid before submission, as we cannot dictate how the University processes payments to the VP. We do not want there to be any issues once the award goes live.

C. Impact – Assessment criteria – AC to complete

C1. Impact of proposal. [textbox up to 500 words]

Information: Please outline the expected impact of your VP proposal, including how the appointment will enhance student learning, skills development, and employability, and how the VP may act as an agent of change within the department / academic unit, the wider university, and beyond. With reference to the theory of change model found in Section 2 – Programme Overview, describe how the VP will support the development of well-rounded engineering professionals who can consider social, economic, policy, ethical, and environmental dimensions, and how their involvement may influence curriculum development, advisory activity, or wider engagement with the Academy's VP scheme.

In your answer, please address:

- How the VP scheme will contribute to the development of rounded engineering professionals.
- How the proposal will improve student employability and integrate industry-focused learning.
- Any impact beyond direct teaching, including contributions to curriculum review, university industrial advisory committees, and wider institutional change.
- How you will sustain the VP's legacy beyond the three-year appointment and optimise their impact.
- Relevant areas such as diversity and inclusion, digital skills, AI, sustainability, ethics and interdisciplinary collaboration.
- A list of expected outcomes in date order, which will form part of the annual reporting requirements.

D. Teaching and learning modes (This will include what support the university will give the VP and what physical deliverables will be given back to the Academy) – Assessment criteria – AC to Complete

D1. Description of teaching and learning modes [textbox, up to 300 words]

Information: This is your opportunity to outline how the VP will bring fresh approaches to teaching, drawing on real engineering practice and emphasising creativity, design, and innovation.

Examples of approaches that universities have successfully used through the VP scheme include:

- Blended learning, combining in-person and online delivery
- Flipped classrooms, using contact time for problem-solving with academic or industry mentors
- Studio-based, active learning, including problem-based and project-based learning that mirrors real engineering challenges
- Activities that help students build adaptable skills, collaborate in diverse teams, and become more employable in a fast-changing technological landscape

These are examples of modern approaches to teaching/learning - other innovative methods are also welcome. Please include a brief description if necessary.

D2. University support that the VP receive [textbox, up to 300 words]

Information: As the VP is most likely new to supporting teaching and learning, how will the university and you, the AC, support them over the three years to transition and better support the students? Some examples to consider might include:

- Tailored training sessions
- Mentoring programmes
- Structured observations
- Buddy system with experienced colleagues
- Regular meetings with key stakeholders
- Access to university resources (teaching platforms, research databases, policy documents, development toolkits)
- Participation in forums and workshops.

These are just some examples to consider and are by no means an exhaustive list.

D3. Physical resources back to the Academy for sharing with others [textbox, up to 300 words]

Information: The Royal Academy of Engineering Skills Centre is a transformational new partnership led by the Academy to catalyse and scale sustainable solutions to chronic and growing shortfalls in the UK's engineering skills capacity. It will have a dedicated website with 4 main sections:

- Skills analysis (referred to as the 'Skills Observatory')
- Resources and learning materials
- Education and Skills Programmes
- Skills providers and partners

As this scheme is publicly funded, the outputs must benefit the wider community. Please state what finished teaching and learning materials, and/or best-practice reports, you will provide to the Academy at the end of your award for inclusion on the Skills Centre website. All material must be free from intellectual-property restrictions so they can be reused by others.

You may include:

- Final teaching or learning materials developed through your project
- A best-practice report outlining what was done, what worked well, what did not work, and recommendations for future use
- Any additional resources that will help others benefit from your work beyond the three-year funding period.

Section two – Visiting Professor (Co-applicant) to complete

E. VP profile and supporting statement – Assessment criteria – VP to Complete

E1. Visiting professor's details [table]

Information: this question allows you, as a prospective VP to provide their details, including prefix, name, email, telephone contact, current employment and job title. If you are retired, then just state "Retired".

On details, give full name, together with prenominal (for example EurIng, Mrs, Ms, Mr, Professor, Dr etc.) and honorary postnominals **ONLY** (such as OBE, MBE, FREng, FRSE as appropriate **NOT** degrees or memberships of professional engineering institutions.

E2. Please upload your CV (File upload as a PDF, maximum four pages)

Information: Your CV should clearly highlight,

- Relevant professional experience and background
- Roles and responsibilities that demonstrate your capability
- Achievements that strengthen your suitability for the VP role
- How your profile aligns with the proposed programme of work

E3. Supporting statement [textbox – up to 300 words]

Information: In your statement, please outline:
- Relevant experience that demonstrates your suitability for the VP role
- How your skills and experience will enable you to deliver the proposed programme
- Examples showing alignment with the Academy's objectives, including diversity and inclusion
- How you will bring industry and academia together, and the benefits this will create
- How your CV explicitly supports and strengthens the programme proposal.

Section three – AC's Line Manager (Collaborator) to complete

This section seeks confirmation that the university fully supports the proposal and choice of the VP and that it has considered the strategic importance of the VP collaboration.

1. **Job title**

Information: Please provide your job title here.

2. **Relationship to applicant (AC)**

Information: Can you please state your relationship to the academic champion, such as pro-vice-chancellor, or line manager.

3. **Outline your commitment to the proposed Visiting Professors' scheme [textbox – up to 400 words]**

Information: this should also include:

- The commitment to support the proposed VP.
- Commitment to allocate time for the Academic Champion to manage the award.
- Indication of the strategic alignment of the academic unit's industrial engagement and teaching strategies.
- Explanation of the strategic importance of this partnership with the chosen industry partner and the Royal Academy of Engineering.
- Explanation of the suitability of the nominated VP.

The statement should make clear that all reasonable facilities will be provided for the VP if the application is successful.

13.   Assessment of Application

This diagram shows the application and assessment process.

Application & assessment process
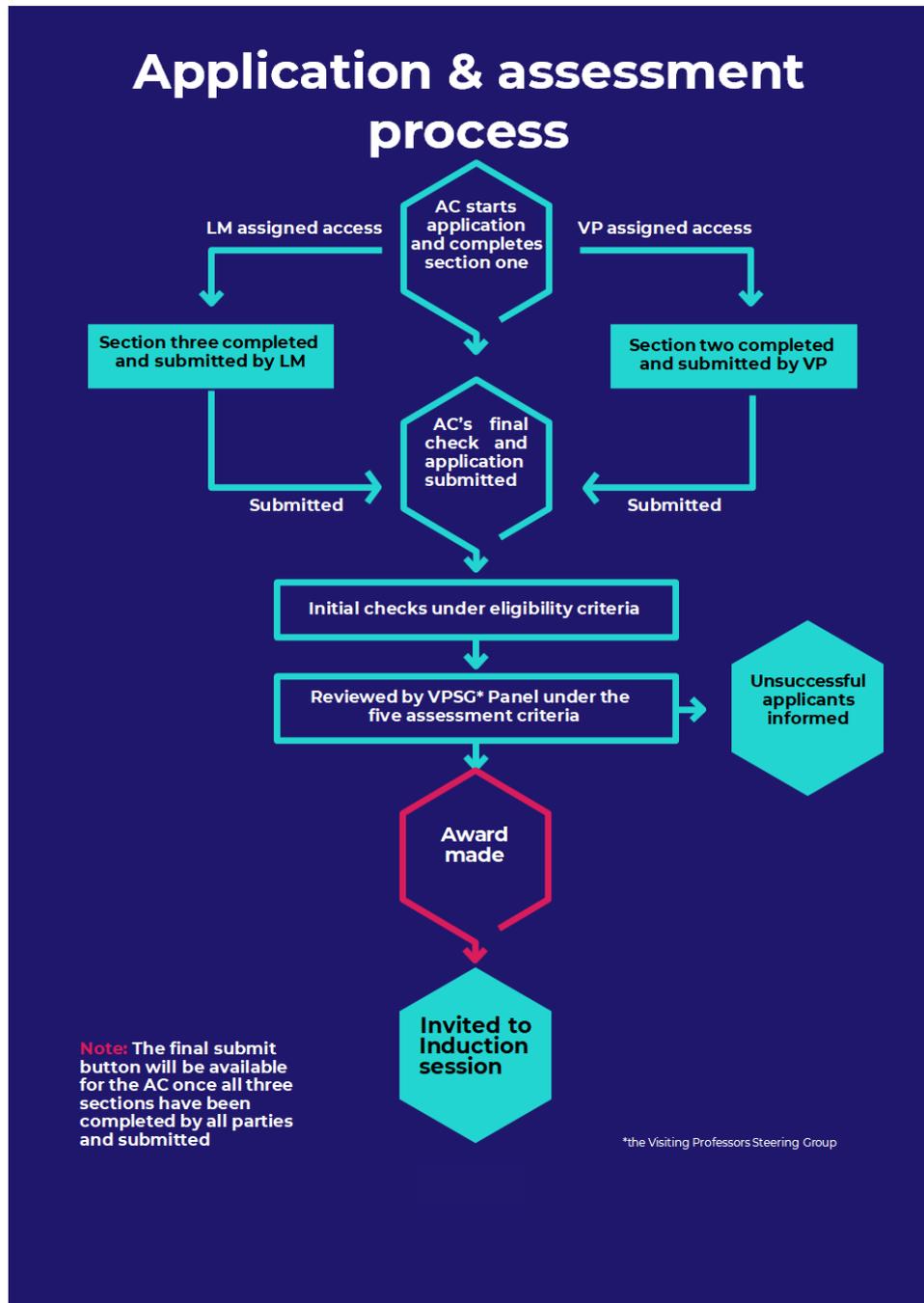
Applications will be reviewed and assessed by a selection panel comprising members of the Visiting Professors Steering Group and past members. They will consider all aspects of the application, and in particular the five criteria highlighted in Section 11. Academic Champions will be notified whether their application has been successful by Monday 13 July 2026, subject to contract.

14.   Grant agreement

If you are successful, your funding will be awarded under the Basic Terms and Conditions found on the [Academy's website](#).

This agreement has been developed to ensure funding aligns with our Academy values, is used for the purposes for which it was awarded and is managed in compliance with our own funders' agreements, UK legislation and funding best practice.

15.   Awardee Excellence Community

The Awardee Excellence Community brings together awardees, alumni and partners from across the Academy's programmes from all career stages and disciplines to share their expertise, collaborate and contribute new perspectives to the Academy's work. You will have the opportunity to meet, learn from and support other Academy awardees, as well as a broader cross-section of Academy Fellows, through a programme of events and opportunities to connect in person and online.

1. Be part of the RAEng [Awardee Excellence Community](#)

2. As an awardee of the Visiting Professors Scheme, you will have access to the Academy's network of awardees and alumni through the [Awardee Excellence Community](#). You will gain access to exclusive events and have opportunities to get involved in the work of the Academy during and after your award ends.

16.   Contact details

If you have any questions, please refer to our FAQs in the document and [the VP website](#) or contact HigherEducation@raeng.org.uk.