

# GSSA Members/Fellows Chartered Status

## What is Chartered Status of the GSSA

- The GSSA, in recognition of international developments, has created the Chartered status of Member/Fellow, to cater for the specific challenges of Competent Persons. Accreditation through the GSSA Chartered programme has been designed to provide increased access to international reciprocity through the RPO process.
- Chartered status is a requirement only for Members/Fellows of the GSSA who wish to use their GSSA membership to sign off as **Competent Persons\*** (or Lead Competent Person), **Competent Valuers** or **Qualified Reserves Estimator** on **Public Reports\*** (as defined in the SAMCODES or any other CRIRSCO code).
  - This also includes academics and/or members of State/Ministerial organisations who are Members/Fellows of the GSSA and who may wish to sign off as a CP (even for a single document).
  - This means that this change will not affect the majority of GSSA Members or Fellows.
- This status is also applicable to individuals wishing to use their GSSA membership to sign off as **Qualified Experts** on UNFC Qualified Assessments (as defined in the UNECE Expert Group on Resource Management Guidance Note on Competency Requirements for the Estimation, Classification and Management of Resources, 25-29 April 2022)
- Chartered status in no way affects those individuals signing off on any public document using their SACNASP (or any other statutory/professional) registration.
- Only Chartered status will be acceptable for signoff under all applicable local, regional and international Public Reporting jurisdictions (subject to prevailing code and/or stock exchange requirements).
  - *Such requirements are the personal responsibility of the individual CP/CV/QRE to check before accepting an assignment to compile a public document for that jurisdiction.*



## Competent Person\*

Clause 7 of the SAMREC Code notes that “Documentation detailing Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves from which a Public Report is prepared must be prepared by, or under the direction of, and signed by a Competent Person.” Clause 9 indicates that a Competent Person is someone who is, *[inter alia]*, a Member/Fellow of the GSSA. In recognition of increased obligations by National Reporting Organisations (NROs) and Recognised Professional Organisations (RPOs) globally as well as addressing concerns of local and international stock exchanges, the GSSA, has determined that only Members/Fellows with Chartered status may be considered as Competent Persons

- This is the only category of Member/Fellow that has been applied for Recognised Professional Organisation (RPO) reciprocity with other CRIRSCO organisations.
- **It is also the only category of membership valid for compilation of public documents for the Johannesburg Stock Exchange as from 1 April 2024**

*\*Similar clauses appear in SAMVAL and SAMOG with respect to the Competent Valuator (CV) and the Qualified Reserves Estimator (QRE). In this document, the term Competent Person (CP) is used to reference all such individuals. It does not, however, include “Technical Experts” “Technical Specialists” or “Subject Matter Specialists” as defined in the SAMCODES and associated Guidelines.*

## Public Reports\*

According to SAMREC Code Clause 3, Public Reports are defined as “.... reports prepared for the purpose of informing investors or potential investors and their advisers on Exploration Results, Mineral Resources or Mineral Reserves. They include, but are not limited to, annual and quarterly company reports, press releases, information memoranda, technical papers, website postings and public presentations.” Such Public Reports may be in printed or electronic media (including social media) and will include JSE circulars, reports as required by the Companies Act and reports for other regulatory authorities or as required by law.

*Public Reporting refers to any documentation which may find its way into the public domain. It refers not only to reporting or documentation by companies listed on a Securities Exchange, but also includes documents compiled by/for private companies or individuals and or statutory purposes.*

## Why apply for Chartered Status?

GSSA Members/Fellows with Chartered status make a significant contribution to the global mining community as Competent Persons. In addition to academic and technical excellence, they also demonstrate ongoing commitment to professionalism and ethics. As such, they are highly valued by employers, clients and the wider minerals community.



### Professional Excellence

- The Chartered status represents a superior level of professionalism and ethics.
- Employers and clients alike demand excellence, enhancing employment opportunities, locally and abroad.



### International Relevance

- The GSSA is one of the sponsors of the SAMCODES (which includes the SAMREC and SAMVAL Codes).
- International reciprocity is vitally important for Geoscientists working in the global space.



### Global Best Practice

- More and more obligations are being placed on Competent Persons globally.
- Accreditation through the GSSA will provide increased access to international reciprocity through the RPO process.

## Chartered Status Requirements

The GSSA Bylaws have been updated to reflect the requirements of Chartered status (see Bylaw 1.7 for details). In summary, the Member/Fellow with Chartered status must:

1. Be a current Corporate or Retired member in good standing of the GSSA (Chartered status is not applicable to Student, Affiliate or Institutional members).
2. Have an applicable geoscience/earth science, four-year degree or equivalent.

3. Have a minimum of FIVE years practical (post-Graduate) experience in the commodity, deposit type and/or style of mineralisation and activity that they wish to sign off on, of which at least TWO years must be in a role requiring exercise of professional judgement.
4. Submit to the GSSA Code of Ethics and the Complaints & Disciplinary procedure. It is expected that the applicant will attend at least one Professionalism/Ethics course in a five-year Continuing Professional Development (CPD) cycle)
5. Demonstrate annual compliance with a GSSA approved CPD programme for at least the past five years.
6. Must be conversant with the SAMCODES. It is expected that the applicant will attend at least one SAMCODE/Other training Course in a five-year CPD cycle (through the SAMCODES Standards Committee or through any other reputable training organisation)
7. Be prepared to list their name and experience on the GSSA website as a matter of public record (in a format prescribed by the GSSA on the Competent Person's Information Form ("CPIF")), which information must be kept current and updated by the member.
8. Be able to list three sponsors/references who must be able to testify as to the applicant's qualifications, experience, professionalism and ethical standing.
9. Satisfy the GSSA Council (or any subcommittee elected by Council) that he/she is a fit and proper person to become a Chartered Member or Fellow of the Society. Council shall be satisfied that the training, experience, degree of responsibility and ethical standing of the applicant justify such Chartered status.

#### Revert to Member

- If the Member/Fellow wishes to relinquish their Chartered status, they may do so by informing the GSSA of their intention in writing.
- Alternatively, every FIVE years the Chartered status will lapse by default and can only be re-instated through the renewal application process.

## Applications/Renewals

Chartership will be considered by Council on receipt of [applications](#).

Accreditation will be reviewed every FIVE years by Council on receipt of [renewal applications](#).

#### Application process

- Application form must be completed in full (on the website) and accompanied by
  - Fully completed and signed CPIF
  - Certificate of Membership / Proof of payment of fees (annual GSSA membership fees)
  - Current GSSA/SACNASP/Other Certificate of CPD compliance
  - Full Curriculum Vitae (current)
  - Three sponsor/reference forms completed and signed.
- The application will be considered by a subcommittee appointed by Council for this express purpose. The sub-committee will be chaired by the GSSA immediate Past President and will comprise a maximum of five individuals being:
  - GSSA leadership of SSC (Chair and/or Vice Chair and/or Immediate Past Chair)
  - The GSSA representative on the SSC
  - SAMREC Chair/deputy (or SAMVAL/SAMOG chair/deputy, as appropriate)
  - Chair of relevant Readers Panel,
  - Additional Fellows (Chartered preferred) may be co-opted as required.

- The Chartered Sub-committee (“CSC”) will consider all applications and propose ratification to Council at the next sitting of Council.
- All completed applications received by the GSSA secretariat will be circulated to the CSC chair, who must circulate such documents to the entire committee within three (3) days.
- The CSC members must consider all applications and send their comments to the Chair (within seven (7) days) using the appropriate forms.
  - A minimum of three (3) members of the CSC are required to comment on each application.
  - Members must declare a conflict of interest where such exists or could be perceived to exist.
  - Where any questions have been raised by any of the CSC members on the fitness of the applicant, the entire committee will need to comment.
  - The CSC may request further information from the applicant and/or may request an interview with the applicant, which must take place in as timeous manner as possible.
- CSC recommendations are to be presented to the GSSA Council at the next Council meeting for ratification or further discussion.
  - On ratification of the application by Council, a Certificate of Chartered Membership will be issued to the applicant.
  - If the application has not been successful, the applicant will be instructed to review the application and submit additional information to the satisfaction of the CSC and Council.
  - If the applicant is not satisfied with the decisions of Council, they may appeal. The appeal will be handled by the GSSA Management Committee, whose decision will be final.
- Once the applicant has been issued a Certificate of Chartered status, all of the application documents (with the exception of the referee reports) will reflect on the Member/Fellow public profile on the website and will be visible and downloadable to all.
- **Every FIVE years, the Chartered Member must renew their accreditation through the renewal process.**
- In the January of the year of renewal, all Chartered information will be removed from the website. In order to have the membership information appear, it will be necessary for the member to renew their accreditation.
  - Submit a completed and signed Renewal Application form to [info@gssa.org.za](mailto:info@gssa.org.za) with the subject heading *Chartered Membership Renewal*
- The Renewal form must be completed in full (on the website) and accompanied by
  - Fully completed and signed CPIF
  - Proof of payment of GSSA annual fees
  - Current GSSA/SACNASP/Other Certificate of CPD compliance
  - Full Curriculum Vitae (current)
  - Additional sponsor/reference forms (as required) completed and signed (Current sponsors/references should simply sign the CPIF - which would imply that they are still happy to be classified as references/sponsors. If they are not able to sign the renewal, then new references must be requested by the applicant.
- The renewal will be considered by the CSC and be ratified by Council at the next appropriate council meeting (all completed renewal applications must be received by the GSSA secretariat at least 30 calendar days prior to the next council meeting to be considered for that sitting – note that Council only sits every alternative month in January, March, May, July, September and November).

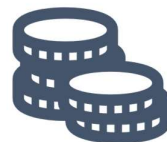
- The CSC and/or Council (in their sole discretion) may request further information from the applicant and/or may request an interview with the applicant.
- On ratification of the renewal application, an updated Certificate of Chartered Membership will be issued to the applicant.
- If the application has not been successful, the applicant will be instructed to review the application and submit additional information to the satisfaction of Council.
- If the applicant is not satisfied with the decisions of Council, they may appeal. The appeal will be handled by the GSSA Management Committee, whose decision will be final.
- Once the applicant has been issued a Certificate of Chartered status, all of these documents will reflect on the Member/Fellows public profile on the website and will be visible/downloadable to all.

### Sponsor/Reference requirements

- Sponsors/references should be familiar with and be able to substantiate the applicant's qualifications and experience.
- Sponsors/references will be asked to provide a peer review to confirm the competency of the applicant.
- Sponsors/references should be GSSA Chartered Members/Fellows (or similar from other relevant organisations).
- If this is not possible, sponsors/references should be, in order of preference:
  - Fellows of the GSSA (or from other relevant organisations)
  - Professionals who are of comparable standing, and who are in a position to assess the applicant's work in the discipline of accreditation which is being sought.
- Ideally at least one sponsor/reference should be a CP/CV in the discipline being applied for.
- Only one sponsor should be from the current employer, except where the applicant has only had one employer. In this case two sponsors can be from the same employer, preferably from different stages of the applicant's career.
- The other one/two sponsors should be:
  - From other organisations, clients, mentors, previous employers or former employees of the current employer; and/or
  - From different stages of the applicant's career.

### Cost of application

- There will be **NO additional charge** for application/renewal of Chartered Status of members in good standing.
- Normal Member/Fellow/Retired fees as determined annually by the GSSA will, however, continue to apply.



# COMPETENT PERSON INFORMATION FORM

## (CPIF\_Date completed/signed)

<b>Name</b>		
<b>Designation</b>		
<b>Company</b>		
<b>Physical Address</b> (optional)		
<b>Contact email</b> (optional)		
<b>Contact telephone</b> (optional)		
<b>Academic qualifications</b>		
<b>Curriculum Vitae</b>		
<b>Professional Membership / Statutory Registration</b>		
<b>Member in good standing</b> (with the GSSA)		
<b>CPD</b>	Current GSSA/SACNASP CPD record attached	
<b>Agreement to submit to Code of Ethics and Complaints Procedure</b>	YES	(YES means that the CP agrees that any (negative) outcome of a complaint may be made public on the GSSA website and/or in the Annual Report). <b>This is a requirement of Chartered status.</b>
<b>Commodity specialisation, years of experience and sign-off capacity</b>		
<b>Experience Summary</b>	<p>I have a minimum of FIVE years relevant post-Graduate experience in the deposit types and mineralisation styles indicated above, including at least TWO years in a role requiring exercise of professional judgement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The above statement must be included as a bare minimum. Additional detail can be included as required.</li> </ul>	
<b>Country experience</b>	List of countries where the CP/CV has operational and/or consulting experience.	
<b>Public Reporting experience</b>	List of Codes that the CP/CV has experience in preparing public reports.	
<b>Formal training courses in respect of any reporting code or Ethics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List the formal training programmes you have attended. Certificates of completion may be required.</li> </ul>	
<b>Other relevant information</b> (optional)	Any other information that the CP/CV may wish to put on record	
<b>Three references/sponsors</b>	1. Name (current company) _____ Signature _____	

	2. Name (current company) _____ Signature
	3. Name (current company) _____ Signature
<b>Details of Complaints/Suspensions</b>	<i>Details of any complaints levied against the CP in the past 5 years and the outcome.</i>

## Declaration

I, \_\_\_\_\_, declare that the above information is current, complete, accurate and not misleading.

- I have not been censored by any professional/statutory body with respect to any Public or Private Report compiled by me or under my guidance (if not true, then supply details).
- I am not currently the subject of a professional standards complaint by any professional or statutory body (if not true, then supply details).
- I have not been refused admission to any professional or statutory body (if not true, then supply details).
- My membership/registration has not been suspended/terminated by any professional or statutory body (if not true, then supply details).
- I have not been found guilty of a breach of the Code of Ethics or other professional misconduct by any professional or statutory body (if not true, then supply details).
- I have not been refused professional indemnity insurance from any organisation or company. I have, or am able to acquire, such insurance without any qualifications (if not true, then supply details).

*Any relevant details with respect to the above declaration*

- The following documents, supplied by me in the application process, are uploaded as attachments and may be made public on the GSSA website.
  - Current full/detailed CV
  - Current CPD Report
  - Current Certificate of Chartered membership.
- I am aware that any information supplied by me, which is incorrect or misleading, may disqualify me from Chartered membership and may result in a formal complaint being laid with the GSSA Ethics Committee.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

# Review of applicant for Chartered Membership by Sponsor/Reference

## NOTES:

This document must be fully completed and signed by the sponsor/reference (typed in this form in Word format).

The document must then be converted to pdf format by the sponsor/reference and returned to the applicant.

Any form not signed and dated by the sponsor/reference will not be considered valid

This document will not form part of the public profile of the applicant but may be made available on request by any valid party requesting access for the purposes of investigation of a complaint for professional/ethical misconduct, or as otherwise required by law.

## Personal details of applicant

**Name, Surname:**

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## Personal details of Sponsor/Reference

**Name, Surname:**

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**Professional Organisation (GSSA)**

GSSA

Membership No:

Membership status (Fellow, Member etc.):

Continuous years of membership:


**Statutory Registration**

Registration No:

Registration status (Professional, etc.):

Continuous years of registration:


**Professional Organisation (Other)**

Membership No:

Membership status:

Continuous years of membership:


**Educational Qualifications**

Highest degree obtained:

University:

Year:




Career summary of Sponsor/Reference

Current position:	Date From:	Date To:	Position Held:
Previous:	Date From:	Date To:	Position Held:
Previous:	Date From:	Date To:	Position Held:
Previous:	Date From:	Date To:	Position Held:

List any SAMCODE activities or code-related courses or conferences that you have attended in the past 5 years.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

Assessment of applicant

A. My knowledge of the applicant is based on the below interaction during the period \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

B. Describe the interaction you have had with the applicant, including but not limited to (please type your answers in the box below)

1. The nature of your relationship (e.g., as an employer, client, co-worker, supervisor, mentor, Lead CP, etc.).

2. Your personal knowledge of their academic/technical qualifications and experience, including the field in which they practice (e.g., geophysics,

hydrogeology, Mineral Resource/Reserve estimation, Mineral Asset Valuation, Oil & Gas, commodity specialisation, signoff capacity, etc.).

3. Your opinion of the level of responsibility and professional judgement of the applicant

4. The number of projects and/or the number of years you have worked with the applicant.

5. Your assessment of their competence (academic and technical knowledge, skills and attitudes) in your interaction with the applicant.

6. Any other comments/motivation to aid the GSSA to assess the applicant.

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C. My overall assessment of the applicant's knowledge and competence, based on personal knowledge and experience is:

**Above average 1**

**Average 2**

**Below Average 3**

**No personal knowledge 4**

Ability to accept responsibility		Quality of work	
Application of scientific principles, methods and techniques		Scientific and/or technical judgement	
Professional/Ethical conduct		Attitude toward profession	

D. Do you know of any reason why the applicant should not be granted Chartered status with the GSSA? If so, please give details.

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E. Do you have personal knowledge on any complaint upheld against the applicant in terms of professional or ethical misconduct that would disqualify him/her from Chartered status with the GSSA? If so, please provide details.

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F. Please confirm that you have seen the applicants completed CPIF and signed same.

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### Declaration

I..... (**please type name and surname**) declare that this sponsor/referee report submitted to the GSSA is my own work in design and execution and has not been influenced by any internal or external factors.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

### For Office Use only

Date received at office	
Additional information requested	
Date approved	

# GSSA Chartered Sub-Committee (CSC)

## Record of Chartered Status deliberations and ratification.

Full Name of Applicant	
GSSA Membership Number	
GSSA Membership Class	
Application Date (date received at GSSA)	
Date received at CSC	
Date sent to Council	
Date ratified by Council	
Date of next renewal	

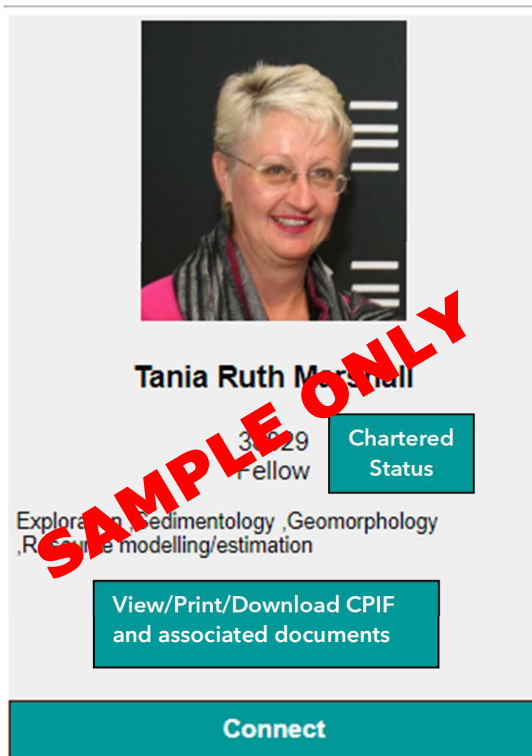
Document	Date Received	Date Verified / Issued
Fully completed and signed CPIF		
Receipt of payment of annual fees		
GSSA/SACNASP/Other Certificate of CPD compliance for the last five years		
Full Curriculum Vitae (current)		
Sponsor/reference review 1		
Sponsor/reference review 2		
Sponsor/reference review 3		

Action	Details
Approved	
Further information requested from the applicant	
Interview requested with the applicant	
Other	

GSSA Admin must then send a note to the applicant (Certificate of Chartered status attached) indicating.

- *This serves to note that your application for Chartered status has been successful.*
- *The documents that you supplied (minus the reference/sponsor forms) will be uploaded to your searchable public profile and will be visible and downloadable to the general public until the date of renewal.*
- *This certification is valid for a period of FIVE years or up to DATE after which you are required to renew.*
  - *The certificate may be revoked by Council if it becomes aware of any circumstance that may bring the reputation of the GSSA or the Chartered status into disrepute.*
- ***The onus to renew is yours - only one reminder will be sent by this office, three months prior to renewal.***
- *Please submit the appropriate renewal form, the required documentation and the renewal fee to this office at least 30 days (DATE) prior to the renewal date to be considered for accreditation during the next sitting of Council and avoid interruption of your Chartered status.*
  - *Any documentation received after this date will only be considered at the next applicable sitting of Council.*
- *Please acknowledge receipt of this mail and acceptance of the above conditions, after which your Chartered status will go live.*

## List of Chartered Members



A sample profile card for a chartered member. It features a portrait of Tania Ruth Marshall, a woman with short blonde hair and glasses, wearing a pink top and a grey scarf. Below the photo is her name, 'Tania Ruth Marshall', followed by the year '2029' and the title 'Fellow'. To the right of this is a teal button labeled 'Chartered Status'. Below the name and title is a list of interests: 'Exploration, Sedimentology, Geomorphology, Resource modelling/estimation'. A large red diagonal watermark reading 'SAMPLE ONLY' is overlaid across the card. At the bottom of the card is a teal button labeled 'Connect'. A teal button with the text 'View/Print/Download CPIF and associated documents' is located below the interests list.

**Tania Ruth Marshall**  
2029  
Fellow

Chartered Status

Exploration, Sedimentology, Geomorphology, Resource modelling/estimation

View/Print/Download CPIF and associated documents

Connect

### Members/Member Search

- Under dropdown for Member type, check Chartered Status
- Collect info from "My Details / Membership Type" - info entered by GSSA Admin Staff after ratification by Council.
- Post member CPIF File containing:
  - Fully completed and signed CPIF.
  - CPD Record
  - Detailed (current) CV.
  - Certificate of Chartered Status (showing ratified and expiry dates)
- CPIF file must have an expiry date (set by admin for FIVE years)