



ECSA

# Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

<p>1. How can I know that a CPD course is validated?</p>	<p>Only Recognised Voluntary Associations and Engineering Departments with accredited programmes may validate activities for CPD credits. All CPD courses that have been validated are listed on the ECSA website.</p>
<p>2. What is the number of CPD points which one should accumulate in a five year period?</p>	<p>You need to obtain a minimum of three per year and 25 over a five-year cycle.</p>
<p>3. I am due to renew my registration, however, in the past 5 years or so I have failed to accumulate any CPD points, is there any remedial course for my case?</p>	<p>ECSA will provide extension of time to obtain the necessary CPD credits where the person has been unable to obtain the credits. This however cannot be condoned indefinitely.</p> <p>Renewal of registration is a formal process and application for renewal of registration must be made to Council, whether you have the necessary credits or not. If this is not done your registration will lapse.</p>
<p>4. Does ECSA have an online CPD system for me to monitor my progress?</p>	<p>ECSA has an Online System for monitoring CPD credits.</p>
<p>5. I work as a manager, and am no longer strictly performing practical engineering functions, how can I accumulate CPD points to keep my registration?</p>	<p>Engineering Managers still take engineering decisions and use engineering principles in making these decisions. Keeping up to date and meeting CPD requirements is still vital for the individual who wants to remain registered.</p>

<p>6. As a Candidate Engineer do I need to present CPD evidence?</p>	<p>The CPD policy as such does not apply to candidates. However as a candidate you are required to continue learning and this is called IPD (Initial Professional Development) as opposed to CPD for registered professionals. No Validation is required. You thus need to complete the IPD form when applying for registration in order to meet Outcome 11. Attending CPD courses for purposes of IPD also helps you to develop other competencies.</p>
<p>7. CPD courses are quite expensive and unaffordable, is there a way to mitigate the cost?</p>	<p>CPD Courses need not be very expensive. VAs and other bodies provide much cheaper courses. We live in a free market economy and market forces regulate the cost. VA's provide free presentations that have CPD credits.</p>
<p>8. There are no service providers offering CPD courses in my area, how do I attain CPD points?</p>	<p>Some VAs provide online CPD courses and points from reading articles in their Journals and answering questions. Generally there will usually be activities in all main centres.</p>
<p>9. Why does ECSA grant CPD points for membership of Voluntary Associations?</p>	<p>Voluntary associations provide facilities for networking with other engineering peers and opportunities for professional development by reading technical articles in the VA Journal and attending technical talks and presentations. ECSA recognises the value of being a member of a VA.</p>
<p>10. If I further my studies, and obtain a post graduate qualification, will that count towards my CPD points?</p>	<p>A post graduate degree gives an applicant 5 completed CPD points in Category 3.</p>

<p>11. One way of obtaining CPD points is reading a book, how does ECSA verify that I have done this when I update my CPD portfolio?</p>	<p>ECSA relies on one adhering to the Code of Conduct and this can also be verified by audit as stipulated in Section 6 of the Rules.</p>
<p>12. If I complete a course which is not ECSA/VA recommended can I submit the evidence to enable me to accumulate CPD credits?</p>	<p>No. A local course, which is not validated, will not enable you to get any CPD credits.</p>
<p>13. I am a member of an international VA, can I submit courses completed through this VA for ECSA CPD points?</p>	<p>Overseas courses and conferences may be acceptable. Application must be made to ECSA for evaluation and approval of such activities.</p>
<p>14. Am I allowed to repeat a CPD course and resubmit as part of my CPD portfolio?</p>	<p>ECSA will not condone a repeat course within a cycle as no new knowledge is obtained however a refresher course is accepted provided it is in another cycle.</p>
<p>15. Would Registration with other statutory councils or bodies count as CPD points?</p>	<p>Registration with another body does not constitute keeping up to date or learning and is thus not acceptable for CPD credits.</p>