

# **Chartered Institute for Public Diplomacy and Management (CIPDM)**

## **Membership and Fellowship Criteria**

### **Introduction**

The **Chartered Institute for Public Diplomacy and Management (CIPDM)** stands as Nigeria's leading professional body dedicated to promoting global excellence in the theory and practice of **public diplomacy, governance, leadership, and strategic management**.

Membership in the Institute represents a hallmark of distinction, a recognition bestowed upon individuals whose academic and professional achievements reflect integrity, leadership, and innovation, and whose work demonstrates an enduring commitment to the advancement of ethical public service, diplomacy, and sustainable development.

The Institute's membership structure is both merit-based and globally benchmarked, providing a structured pathway for professional progression through six categories of membership: Student, Graduate, Associate, Full, Senior, and Fellow.

Each category reflects a distinct level of competence, professional maturity, and societal contribution, aligned with the Institute's values of integrity, excellence, service, and accountability.

### **1. Student Membership (SCIPDM)**

#### **Purpose**

The Student category provides a foundational pathway for aspiring diplomats, policy leaders, and managers. It introduces undergraduates and early learners to the principles of diplomacy, leadership, and ethical management, cultivating early awareness of the values of global citizenship and professional excellence.

## Eligibility Requirements

- Current enrollment in a recognized university, polytechnic, or equivalent tertiary institution.
- Demonstrated interest in public service, leadership, or international relations.
- Agreement to abide by the **CIPDM Code of Conduct** and participate in its student mentorship programs.

## Core Criteria for Consideration

- Consistent academic progress and demonstrated interest in global or civic affairs.
- Evidence of participation in leadership, community service, or institutional projects.
- Endorsement by a lecturer, dean, or professional mentor.

## Expectations and Professional Standards

Student Members are expected to maintain high ethical standards, actively engage in leadership workshops, and demonstrate discipline, teamwork, and civic responsibility. They are encouraged to attend CIPDM's professional seminars, mentorship programs, and leadership bootcamps, preparing them for future progression within the Institute.

## Benefits

- Access to mentorship by practicing diplomats and senior professionals.
- Participation in leadership development programs and student diplomacy forums.
- Recognition as a member-in-training of a Chartered Institute committed to global leadership and excellence.

## 2. Graduate Membership (GCIPDM)

### Purpose

The Graduate category formally admits new graduates who exhibit the intellectual capacity and moral discipline essential for a professional career in diplomacy, governance, or management. It bridges the academic and professional spheres, helping young professionals transition into ethical practitioners.

### Eligibility Requirements

- Possession of a Bachelor's degree, HND, or equivalent qualification in a relevant field.
- Less than **three (3) years** of post-graduation professional experience.
- Evidence of active participation in leadership, service, or internship programs.

### Core Criteria for Consideration

- Foundational knowledge of diplomacy, policy, or organizational management.
- Evidence of commitment to continuous learning and ethical professional conduct.
- Demonstrated civic or community engagement reflecting leadership potential.

### Expectations and Professional Standards

Graduate Members must participate in the Institute's **mandatory induction program**, complete continuous professional development (CPD) modules, and attend national or regional training workshops. They are expected to embody professionalism and contribute to the visibility and reputation of the Institute.

## **Benefits**

- Recognition as a **junior professional member** of CIPDM.
- Access to early-career mentoring and international professional networks.
- Eligibility for promotion to **Associate Membership** after meeting experience and performance standards.

## **3. Associate Membership (ACIPDM)**

### **Purpose**

The Associate category recognizes professionals who have developed significant practical competence in diplomacy, public administration, or management. Associates are regarded as practicing professionals who demonstrate accountability, technical skill, and dedication to ethical governance.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

- A **minimum of three (3) years** of relevant post-graduation professional experience.
- Possession of a **recognized degree or equivalent professional certification**.
- Record of ethical conduct and verified professional achievement.

### **Core Criteria for Consideration**

- Evidence of active contribution to institutional growth, reform, or innovation.
- Documented engagement in policy analysis, communication, or administrative leadership.
- Recognition by peers or supervisors for professionalism and reliability.

### **Expectations and Professional Standards**

Associates are expected to serve as **emerging leaders**, upholding professional ethics and contributing to policy and organizational development. They must engage in continuous professional learning, mentor entry-level members, and participate in **Institute research and capacity-building programs**.

## Benefits

- Recognition as a **certified practitioner** in diplomacy or management.
- Eligibility to serve on professional committees and technical panels.
- Access to national and international professional development opportunities.

## 4. Full Membership (MCIPDM)

### Purpose

Full Membership is conferred upon professionals with demonstrable leadership, innovation, and ethical excellence in diplomacy, governance, or management. It represents advanced professional competence and the ability to contribute strategically to policy and institutional advancement.

### Eligibility Requirements

- At least five (5) years of relevant professional experience.
- Leadership or managerial responsibility within an organization or public institution.
- Evidence of consistent contribution to public service, governance, or capacity building.

### Core Criteria for Consideration

- Measurable impact through reforms, publications, or program implementation.
- Recognition by peers or government agencies for ethical and professional leadership.
- Proven commitment to mentorship, advocacy, or social responsibility.

### Expectations and Professional Standards

Full Members are custodians of the Institute's values and are expected to serve as mentors and contributors to national and institutional development. They are encouraged to publish papers, participate in **policy dialogues**, and contribute to research and advocacy initiatives.

## Benefits

- Eligibility to vote and hold elective positions within the Institute.
- Priority access to conferences, research grants, and publications.
- Recognition as a **thought leader** in public diplomacy and governance practice.

## 5. Senior Membership (SCIPDM)

### Purpose

The Senior Membership category distinguishes professionals who have achieved executive or advisory status, demonstrating exceptional leadership, policy expertise, and institutional influence. It is designed for practitioners who shape governance and development outcomes at the national or international level.

### Eligibility Requirements

- Minimum of **ten (10) years** of cumulative experience in leadership or academia.
- Proven record of institutional reform, innovation, or executive governance.
- Demonstrated contribution to policy development, diplomacy, or organizational transformation.

### Core Criteria for Consideration

- Executive or advisory role in government, academia, or international institutions.
- Publication of academic or professional works of influence.
- Recognized participation as a speaker or expert panelist in global or national conferences.

### Expectations and Professional Standards

Senior Members serve as **mentors, policy advisers, and role models** within the Institute. They are expected to lead by example, contribute to strategic decision-making, and foster collaborative partnerships that strengthen national and global institutions.

## Benefits

- Prestige as a senior subject-matter expert in diplomacy and management.
- Eligibility to chair boards, committees, and professional panels within CIPDM.
- Access to exclusive international platforms and leadership networks.

## 6. Fellowship (FCIPDM)

The **Fellowship of the Chartered Institute for Public Diplomacy and Management (FCIPDM)** represents the pinnacle of professional excellence and leadership in the fields of diplomacy, governance, strategic management, and public policy. It is conferred upon accomplished individuals whose record of distinction demonstrates exemplary service, significant intellectual contribution, and transformative impact within their profession and society.

The Fellowship embodies a lifelong commitment to ethical leadership, knowledge advancement, and the promotion of diplomacy as a tool for sustainable development and global peacebuilding.

### 1. Eligibility Requirements

Candidates for Fellowship must demonstrate a consistent record of **professional distinction and impact** in diplomacy, management, or public policy. The following requirements shall apply:

- A minimum of **fifteen (15) years** of progressive leadership, research, or policy experience in public diplomacy, international relations, governance, public service or management.
- Evidence of sustained contributions to national or international development through innovation, advisory roles, or institutional leadership.
- Proven commitment to **ethical practice, excellence, and professional integrity**, in alignment with CIPDM's Code of Conduct.
- Demonstrated impact on institutional capacity, knowledge transfer, or systems strengthening within their field of engagement.

## **2. Core Criteria for Fellowship Consideration**

Each applicant must satisfy **at least five (5)** of the following eight (8) criteria:

- 1. Distinguished Professional Achievement**
  - Exceptional performance in diplomacy, management, policy, or governance.
  - Demonstrated influence in advancing public or institutional reforms of national or international importance.
- 2. Recognition and Awards**
  - Recipient of prestigious **national or international awards** recognizing excellence in leadership, scholarship, or diplomacy.
- 3. Peer and Institutional Endorsement**
  - Endorsement or recommendation from respected professionals, peers, or international organizations attesting to the candidate's credibility and contributions.
- 4. Scholarly and Thought Leadership Contributions**
  - Authorship of significant publications, research, or policy papers advancing the discipline of public diplomacy and management.
- 5. Innovation and Systemic Reform**
  - Proven record of initiating or implementing reforms, models, or frameworks that have led to measurable institutional or social transformation.
- 6. Leadership in Professional or Academic Bodies**
  - Service in executive, advisory, or policymaking capacities within national or international institutions.
  - Active participation in capacity-building or professional development programs.
- 7. Mentorship and Human Capital Development**
  - Demonstrated commitment to mentoring young professionals and promoting ethical leadership across generations.
- 8. Public Engagement and Representation**
  - Recognized participation as a speaker, facilitator, or representative at international conferences, summits, or policy dialogues.

### **3. Supporting Documentation**

Applicants must submit a comprehensive Fellowship Application Portfolio containing:

- A detailed **Curriculum Vitae (CV)** outlining leadership, academic, and professional achievements.
- Documentary evidence addressing at least five (5) qualifying criteria.
- Two (2) professional reference letters from current Fellows or senior members attesting to integrity, leadership, and impact.
- A Professional Impact Statement (1–2 pages) detailing personal contributions to diplomacy, policy innovation, or institutional advancement.
- Copies of relevant certificates, publications, media features, or awards.

### **4. Evaluation and Selection Process**

Applications are assessed by the CIPDM Fellowship Committee, composed of senior Fellows and eminent professionals drawn from diplomacy, academia, governance, and management.

- Each submission is evaluated on the basis of impact, integrity, significant contribution, innovation, and alignment with the Institute's mission.
- The **Review Panel** shall include a minimum of **three (3) Fellows** of the Institute and **two (2) external assessors** of recognized national or international standing.
- Selection is based on merit, transparency, and peer evaluation in accordance with international best practices.

### **5. Outstanding Achievement Recognition**

The Governing Council may confer **Honorary Fellowship (HonFCIPDM)** upon distinguished individuals of exceptional influence whose contributions to public diplomacy and management extend beyond traditional professional boundaries.

This recognition honors **heads of state, senior diplomats, thought leaders, innovators, or global policymakers** whose lifelong service exemplifies the ideals of peacebuilding, ethical leadership, and global collaboration.

## **6. Ethical and Continuing Obligations of Fellows**

All Fellows shall:

- Uphold the **Chartered Institute's Code of Ethics**, promoting accountability, inclusivity, and professional excellence.
- Serve as **ambassadors of integrity and leadership** in diplomacy and management.
- Participate actively in Institute activities, policy dialogues, and mentorship programs.
- Contribute to **knowledge exchange and professional advancement** across public and private sectors.
- Commit to continuous learning and uphold the values of ethical diplomacy and institutional transparency.

## **7. Conferment**

Successful candidates shall be **formally inducted** and conferred the title of **Fellow (FCIPDM)** during the Institute's Annual Induction Ceremony.

Fellows are thereafter entitled to:

- Use the post-nominal designation **FCIPDM** as a mark of professional prestige.
- Enjoy recognition as **leaders of thought and practice** in diplomacy and management.
- Access exclusive professional networks, panels, and consultative opportunities facilitated by the Institute.

The Fellowship of CIPDM is a distinguished honor that symbolizes **leadership, scholarship, and service** at the highest professional level. It affirms the Institute's commitment to recognizing individuals whose contributions advance diplomacy, management, and global cooperation toward a more peaceful and equitable world.

## **Conclusion**

The membership structure of the Chartered Institute for Public Diplomacy and Management embodies the Institute's unwavering commitment to professional excellence, ethical governance, and global relevance.

Each grade of membership signifies not only personal achievement but also a pledge to uphold integrity, contribute to national development, and champion the principles of peace, diplomacy, and responsible management.

Through its rigorous, merit-based selection process and continuous professional development programs, CIPDM ensures that every member, from student to fellow, becomes a catalyst for societal transformation, ethical leadership, and global collaboration.