

## RCOT Fellowship role profile

### About us

We're RCOT, the Royal College of Occupational Therapists. We've championed the profession and the people behind it for over 90 years; and today, we are thriving with over 36,000 members. Then and now, we're here to help achieve life-changing breakthroughs for our members, for the people they support and for society as a whole.

We have a vision, that people everywhere value the life-changing power of occupational therapy. To achieve this, we have a new organisational structure which positions us so that we can grasp the opportunities for occupational therapy and for us as a membership body.

### What we do and how we do it

We live and breathe our values. They describe what matters to us. They show how everyone here at RCOT acts; makes decisions as individuals and as a team; and drive us in our approach to achieving our vision and purpose.

Our values	
<b>We Impact</b>	<p>We make meaningful differences with all our work.</p> <p>We prioritise work that achieves our shared purpose and strategy.</p> <p>We go above and beyond for the people who need us.</p>
<b>We Challenge</b>	<p>We find new and better ways to make things happen.</p> <p>We are brave and bold in our ideas and actions.</p> <p>We challenge ourselves, each other and the status quo.</p>
<b>We Elevate</b>	<p>We lift up and support others to be and do their best.</p> <p>We are accessible and collaborative.</p> <p>We are united and move forward together, even if we sometimes disagree.</p>
<b>We Respect</b>	<p>We value each other and celebrate our differences.</p> <p>We are approachable, genuine and trustworthy.</p> <p>We listen to others and believe everyone's views should be heard.</p>

### Fellowship awards

A Fellowship award is the highest honour we can give our members. A Fellowship recognises exceptional service and outstanding contribution to the profession throughout a person's career.

#### 1. Fellowship (for a Professional member)

This award recognises a RCOT professional member who has made a significant impact to the profession and furthered the goals of RCOT during their career.

**2. Fellowship (for an Associate member)**

This award is for individuals who will have been an RCOT associate member for at least 10 years at the time of the award. They will have demonstrated a significant impact to the profession and furthered the goals of RCOT during their career.

**3. Honorary Fellowship (for a non-member)**

This award is open to individuals who are not occupational therapists or RCOT members. They will have made an exceptional contribution to either promote the profession or will have provided distinguished service to RCOT.

## Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for either a Fellowship (Professional, Associate or Honorary), it must be demonstrated that the nominee has made a consistent and outstanding contribution to our profession or made a significant impact on OT practice, education and/or research.

Nominations for Fellowship are received through an application process and require two supporting nominators and supporting evidence. All RCOT members are eligible to put forward nominations for fellow and merit awards. In acknowledgement of the difference in achievement between fellow and merit we are implementing a 3-year gap between individuals receiving these awards from 2025.

A prospective Fellow may have:

- Improved service delivery to the benefit of people accessing services and carers.
- Advanced the way that OT's are educated.
- Supported the OT workforce through initiatives such as equity, diversity and belonging.
- Conducted research that has influenced the practice of OT at a national, UK-wide and/or international level.
- Raised the profile of the OT profession with a range of stakeholders.
- Through outstanding leadership, influenced the perception of occupational therapy in a national or international context. For example, the nominee may be working in a national leadership role or an international OT organisation such as the World Federation of Occupational Therapists, Council of Occupational Therapists for the European Countries (COTEC) or European Network of Occupational Therapists in Higher Education (ENOTHE).
- Made an outstanding contribution in another area not listed.

In addition to the eligibility for application to the Fellowship award, the nominee should:

- Be in a position of good professional standing and not under investigation by HCPC
- Be fit to practice as per HCPC's:
  - [standards of conduct, performance and ethics](#)
  - [standards of proficiency](#)
  - [standards of continued professional development](#)
- Adhere to the [RCOT professional standards for occupational therapy practice, conduct and ethics](#)

- Be an advocate for RCOT, supporting our work, offering challenge constructively and raising the profile of occupational therapy
- Adhere to the [HCPC social media policy code of conduct](#) (challenge discrimination, maintain appropriate boundaries, communicate appropriately and respect confidentiality)

## Fellowship duration

Nominees for an RCOT Fellowship are approved by Council. Once approved, the fellowship is granted for life. Successful nominees are informed by email after Council's decision and will receive further information on how the award will be celebrated.

## Termination Conditions

Should an awardee no longer meet the eligibility requirements of the award, RCOT may propose to revoke a Fellowship. The final decision to revoke an award will sit with Council.

All Fellowship awardees must ensure that they remain in good standing with the appropriate regulatory bodies and associated professional organisations.

A Fellowship awardee must notify RCOT at [hello@rcot.co.uk](mailto:hello@rcot.co.uk) if, for any reason, a member's or specified non-member's professional status changes so that they are not in good standing with a regulatory body and/or associated professional organisation.

## RCOT Privacy Notice

All nominees are required to read and adhere to our privacy notice. The privacy notice is available on the [RCOT website](#).

## Support and queries

The terms outlined for recipients of a Fellowship are open to amendments by Council and, should this change, award recipients will be notified by email. If you have any questions or need any clarification on the information in this document, please contact our awards team at [Hello@rcot.co.uk](mailto:Hello@rcot.co.uk)