



The  
British  
Psychological  
Society

## **The British Psychological Society is revising its approach to test user certification and registration from 5 September 2011**

On Monday 5 September the British Psychological Society (BPS) will launch a new approach to test user certification and registration, in line with standards of competence outlined by the European Federation of Psychologists' Associations (EFPA).

The mark of a current and active test user will be that they hold an entry on a new Register and continue to abide by the [Code of Good Practice for Psychological Testing](#) and to adhere to rules relating to membership of the Register. This new Register will become known as the Register of the British Psychological Society's Qualifications in Test Use (RQTU) and it will move online via the BPS' Psychological Testing Centre website [www.psychtesting.org.uk](http://www.psychtesting.org.uk).

Every 6 years test users with an RQTU entry will be required to re-validate their qualifications in test use by affirming they have maintained their competence. They may be required to submit evidence to support this affirmation. This initiative aims to ensure that only competent and current test users retain valid qualifications in test use. Further information relating to maintenance of competence can be accessed on the Psychological Testing Centre website in the document [An Introduction to the RQTU](#)

### **How can I get an entry on the online Register (RQTU)?**

- A. *If you have been awarded BPS Certificates of Competence and have a current annual entry on the Register of Competence in Psychological Testing (RCPT), meaning payment is up to date at 4.9.11, you will automatically transfer over to the new RQTU when it opens on 5 September. The BPS will contact you over the summer period to outline how your profile will look on the RQTU and will inform you of the rules relating to membership of the RQTU. You need not take any action.***
  
- B. *If you have been awarded BPS Certificates of Competence, but have allowed your annually renewable entry on the Register of Competence in Psychological Testing to lapse, we would encourage you to reinstate your Register entry before 5 September to ensure your details appear on the online RQTU. The annual fee for the Register is £35.75 and this can be settled by debit/credit card on +44 (0)116 252 9530. (From 5.9.11 the RQTU fee is £36)***

**C. If you were assessed as a competent test user, but never pursued the award of a BPS Certificate of Competence in Educational/Occupational Testing**, there is a route open for fixed period of 2 years (until 04.09.13) whereby you can gain entry to the RQTU, through an affirmation of your current competence as a test user. A number of Assessors, whose assessment methods have been verified by the BPS have agreed to participate in the transitional arrangements for the affirmation of current competence. Further details can be accessed at [Delayed registering as a test user? Don't miss the boat!](#) . In the first instance we would encourage test users to contact their original Assessor to seek an affirmation of current competence, providing they are currently verified at the appropriate level (and where applicable in the appropriate personality measure).

#### **What happens if I do not get on to the RQTU at the point of launch on 5 September?**

- **All test users who fall into category B above**, will have 2 years, until (04.09.13) in which their Certificates of Competence will act as evidence to reinstate a Register entry, upon settlement of appropriate fees. After this time however, if these test users would need to get their testing qualifications re-validated by an Assessor, in order to regain entry to the RQTU. Test users would be likely to incur a charge levied by an Assessor. The Certificates of Competence would have no currency at all after this timeframe without an active RQTU entry and the BPS would make no claim about the test user's competence.
- **All test users who fall into category C above**, will need to have sought an affirmation of current competence before the transitional arrangements close on 04.09.13. If they have not pursued this route and applied to the BPS within this timeframe, then it is likely they would need to re-validate their assessment by undergoing a full assessment of all relevant competencies with a BPS verified Assessor. This would have a likely time implication for a test user and would be likely to incur a charge levied by an Assessor if the test user wished to subsequently re-engage with the BPS to register their competence.

For further information , to settle a Register fee, or to check your status on the current Register in readiness for the launch of the new online RQTU, please contact the BPS' Psychological Testing Centre via [enquiry@psychtesting.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@psychtesting.org.uk) or by calling +44 (0)116 252 9530.