

Steps to becoming a Registered Play Inspector

Am I eligible?

To be eligible you will already have a good working knowledge of playground inspections. You will probably already have carried out annual inspections but if not will have carried out regular operational inspections.

You will have a good working knowledge of EN 1176, EN 1177 and BS 7188, together with previous Standards; BS 5696 and DIN 7926. You will also have an understanding of how children use playgrounds.

How do I apply?

STAGE 1

Prepare a portfolio of your work. This could include the following:

- a copy of two recent annual inspections, post installation inspections or other detailed inspections carried out by you
- a brief CV giving details of relevant experience
- the names of two referees, preferably previous employers or customers for whom you have carried out Annual Inspections

This portfolio should then be sent to RPII at the address below, together with:

- a signed copy of the enclosed Membership and Examination Application Form
- details of your Professional Indemnity and Public Liability Insurances
- two passport size photographs
- completed code of ethics
- the sum due

The portfolio will then be evaluated and if it meets the above criteria by showing that you have the required experience and knowledge, you will proceed to Stage 2.

If you do not have the required experience and knowledge, you will be notified of courses, which you could attend to increase your competence. In that event, your fees will be returned, less an administration fee of £25.

Please note that the evaluation is not a significant hurdle itself, it is merely aimed at avoiding people spending money on a full assessment when they clearly do not have the requisite knowledge.

STAGE 2

If you progress to stage 2, you will be required to attend an assessment day. At that day you will be required to submit the following details and agree to a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check being undertaken.

The assessment day will consist of two parts, a written and a practical examination.

Written:

The written examination will consist of two multiple choice question papers. The first is aimed at testing your understanding of the safety implications of the Standard. The second will test your knowledge of safety, manufacturers and maintained elements and playground design and operations

Practical:

A practical playground inspection will be carried out in the presence of an RPII examiner. You will be required to carry out an Annual Inspection of a playground. You will need to describe what you are doing and explain the reasons for your actions. You will also need to make notes. The Assessor may ask questions to clarify why you are inspecting in a particular manner.

You will be permitted to refer to your own short codes, reference book, Standard, etc. However, there will be a time limit of 45 minutes for the inspection.

You will be required to demonstrate that you know how to use EN1176 Standard probes during the course of your inspection. Probes will be available on site, or you may bring your own.

An important emphasis of the assessment will be on your ability to identify hazards as well as technical failures linked to the requirements of EN 1176.

At the end of the assessment your written notes will be viewed by the examiner who will either countersign or photocopy them and return them to you before you leave. You will then be required to submit a typed Inspection Report of a quality suitable for submission to a client within 2 weeks. You must also send a copy of your written notes with your report but it is advisable to keep a photocopy for your own reference.

The Inspection Report must be based on the notes you have made on site, although it is quite permissible to refer to the Standard for clarification where the data is not commonly used. The written inspection site notes will, therefore, need to indicate where you considered there might be failures and what they might be.

The use of photographs to supplement your final Report are welcomed, but is not a requirement.

STAGE 3:

On satisfactory completion of the examination your name will be entered onto the Register and appropriate documentation supplied.

**Applications should be returned to: Register of Play Inspectors
International Ltd, Federation House, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire,
CV8 2RF. Tel: 024 76 693787 Fax 76 414990 E-Mail:
rpil@playinspectors.com Web: www.playinspectors.com**