



COURT OF MASTER SOMMELIERS - EUROPE

Terms & Conditions

- 1 The Court of Master Sommeliers was established in 1977 to promote excellence in hotel and restaurant beverage services. The intensive education and examination programme guides aspiring Masters through four increasingly rigorous levels of coursework and examination, culminating in the Master Sommelier Diploma Examination.
- 2 Enrolment is open to any persons who are 18 years or over.
To apply for enrolment in the Introductory, Certified, Advanced, or Master Sommelier exams, candidates should complete an application form which can be found against the appropriate course or examination on our website:
www.courtofmastersommeliers.org
All information in relation to course fees & qualifications including the application forms can be found here.
- 3 Enrolment into the Certified Sommelier examination is only offered to applicants who have successfully completed the Introductory qualification.
Entry to the Advanced course and examination is limited to those persons who have successfully passed the Certified Sommelier Examination.
Applicants for the Master Sommelier Diploma must have successfully passed the CMS Advanced Certificate.

CMSE reserves the right to request the verification of age, identity, residential address and qualifications of applicants and any other information relevant to entry and participation in a CMSE course.
- 4 The CMSE will accept for Enrolment eligible applicants for each course or examination offered. In its sole discretion CMSE may increase or reduce the maximum number of applicants accepted for any course or examination offered, or refuse applicants and refund applicants pursuant to clause 9 of these terms and conditions.
- 5 It is a requirement that all candidates have an appropriate amount of Service experience within the Hospitality industry working with Wine and Beverages. Experience will be determined on an individual basis depending on the candidate.
- 6 CMSE will select for enrolment, eligible applicants for each of the Certified examinations offered. Eligibility for enrolment into a Certified examination is at the sole discretion of the CMSE, but CMSE will consider applicants who have previously successfully completed an Introductory examination and/or the top qualifying candidates from the Introductory examination conducted immediately prior to the Certified examination.
In its sole discretion CMSE may increase or decrease the maximum number of

applicants pursuant to clause 9 of these terms & conditions.
CMSE will not be responsible for late, lost or misdirected applications or other communications written or electronic.

- 7 **CMSE reserves the right in their absolute discretion to reject applications for enrolment if the applicants do not meet the eligibility criteria or for any other reason as determined by CMSE in its sole discretion, including but not limited to, submission of untruthful content during the application process.**
- 8 Applicants may enroll in offered education programmes worldwide subject to places being available at the time of the enquiry.
An enquiry may constitute intent to participate, but the CMSE has the discretion to confirm the places only to persons who have paid the full fee or a non-returnable deposit.
Eligible candidates who apply for the Master Sommelier Diploma, must, once accepted on the programme remain with the accepting organization (CMSE or CMSA) Transfer of places between Europe and America is not permitted .
Any candidate who for any reason requires to relocate from Europe to America or vice versa must make a written application to the CMSE or CMSA for consideration, stating the reasons for such change. The CMSE & CMSA have absolute discretion to grant or deny the request.
- 9 The CMSE reserves the right to cancel any course or examination if insufficient applications for enrolment are received. In the event that CMSE must cancel any course or examination it will give applicants a minimum of 21 days notice prior to the scheduled commencement of the course in which the applicant is enrolled. Applicants will then be entitled to receive a full refund pursuant to Clause 9 of these terms and conditions.
- 10 **If an applicant cancels enrolment up to 28 days prior to the commencement of the course, the applicant will incur the loss of 50% of the full course fee**
Any cancellations received within 27 days of the scheduled start date of the course or examination in which the applicant is enrolled will incur a 100% cancellation fee
In the event that CMSE cancels a scheduled course or examination or declines an application into any one or all examinations for which the applicant has applied for enrolment, the applicant will receive a full refund.
Any refunds made pursuant to this clause will be credited to the applicant.
- 11 Applicants who are accepted on a course or examination will be assessed and examined throughout the course by the nominated CMSE assessors. The CMSE assessors will ultimately determine whether or not an applicant has successfully completed an examination in which the candidate is enrolled. In assessing and exercising their judgment, the CMSE assessors will be guided by the assessment criteria set out on the CMSE website . www.courtofmastersommeliers.org
- 12 CMSE or any related body, shall not be liable for any loss, damage or injury suffered (even if caused by negligence) as a result of individuals enrolling and participating in any CMSE examination, except for any liability that cannot be excluded by law.
- 13 Applicants will be refused service of alcohol or provision of alcoholic beverages during any CMSE course or examination if it would breach any relevant laws, codes

or policies of the relevant liquor license, including those relating to the responsible service of alcohol. The CMSE supports the responsible service of alcohol.

- 14 Applicants consent to CMSE or any sponsor/ supporter of the CMSE programme using their name and likeness for an unlimited period of time without remuneration, for the purpose of promoting the CMSE courses and examinations or any sponsor/ supporter of the CMSE programme.
- 15 Details from entries will be collected and used for the purpose of administering the CMSE examinations (which may include the disclosure to third parties) including any sponsors / supporters of the CMSE programme.
By applying to enroll in a CMSE course or examination applicants consent to the use of their information as described in these terms and conditions and agree that the CMSE and any third party may use it for any future promotional marketing and publicity purposes without any future reference or payment to the applicant.
Applicants may access, change and/or update their personal information at any time.
- 16 Individuals who successfully complete all parts of the Master Sommelier Diploma will be expected to uphold the accepted ethics and standards of the Court of Master Sommeliers. Recipients of the diploma will be required to sign an agreement binding them to a code of ethics and conduct of a Master Sommelier.
- 17 Full membership to the Court of Mater Sommeliers is open by invitation only to those persons who have been awarded the Master Sommelier Diploma, subject to approval by the board of the CMSE
An annual membership fee is payable to maintain membership.