Have your knowledge and skills recognised as a professional technician
Science technicians are the backbone of any laboratory. They are the people who make science happen.

The Science Council’s professional awards recognise people working in technical roles for the quality of your work and experience.

Professional registration proves that you:
• can apply your knowledge in a professional setting
• can work with other people and take personal responsibility for yourself and others
• are committed to personal development and professional integrity.

Professional membership

If you are not already a member of a professional body licensed to award Science Council professional registration, we can help find the right one for you.

Professional membership gives you support and advice on many aspects of your work, including access to training & events and expertise in your chosen discipline.

Ruth, Registered Science Technician (RSciTech)

Why I applied
I applied for registration as I believe it reinforces the education I have undertaken and the experience I have gained. The award provides a baseline for comparison with others across the profession.

How has it benefited me?
I work in a hospital, where technicians are hidden away between patients being diagnosed and patients being treated. Professional recognition gives confidence to patients that the quality of their treatment is exactly what the doctor ordered.

“Being recognised as a Registered Science Technician has provided me with a protected title that can only be used by registered professionals.”

It also provides a set of standards with an accompanying continuing professional development (CPD) framework for me, and my colleagues, to follow.

Who else would benefit from becoming a Registered Science Technician?
Any trained professional in the field, in a technical science role, who would like formal recognition for their training/experience.
5 steps to becoming a registered professional

1. Sign up to the Science Council’s online application system at sciencecouncil.org/apply
2. Choose which registration award to apply for. There is a quick-check tool available in the system that can help you decide.
3. Either provide your current professional body membership details, or choose one from those licensed to award Science Council professional registration (see options overleaf)
4. Complete the application form and competence report. We have lots of information and advice to help you along the way. If you’re applying for RSciTech or RSci the first year’s fee is £70 (£30 if you’re already a member of a licensed professional body).
5. Wait while your application is assessed by two independent and experienced professionals. Or you may choose the option of a face to face assessment.

Ian, Registered Scientist (RSci)

Why I applied
I have been a technician for 44 years working in various roles in Microbiology, including in government research and higher education. I applied for professional registration as a Registered Scientist so my technical skills could be measured against the national benchmark standards created by the Science Council.

How it has benefited me
I am a member of the Royal Society of Biology (RSB) and have got involved in supporting and promoting registration for other technicians as an assessor and by writing a blog about my experiences.

“As a Registered Scientist I feel I have taken ownership of my career.”

I was also invited to a gathering of successful technical staff at Newcastle University, who had also become professionally registered to have drinks with the Vice Chancellor, an official event celebrating all academic, technical and administrative staff who had achieved success for the University in some way.

Who else would benefit from becoming a Registered Scientist?
Becoming an RSci is valuable for any scientist, but I would particularly recommend it to anyone who does a lot of work outside of the lab. Working with organisations like the Brilliant Club means I have the opportunity to undertake a lot of extra training in areas such as pedagogy that might otherwise go unrecognised in my PhD. Professional registration is a great way to recognise and acknowledge that.
For someone working in science, professional registration proves your competence, ability and integrity. It demonstrates your commitment to keeping your skills and knowledge up to date through continuing professional development (CPD).

It is the shortest CV you will ever have to write.

For companies, professional registration provides a framework for the workforce: investing in and rewarding the high standards of staff at all levels. It helps build trust among customers for commitment to quality and professional practice.