Professional Registration Workshop. Part I: Why and How?

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Survey Monkey Apply!

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ABOUT ME

- 30 years experience in Biomedical Sciences
- Experienced molecular & cell biologist
- Experienced protein biochemist
- Experienced in Assay design & drug discovery
- Experienced with DNA Sequencing platforms & genomics
- Author, review Editor, instructor

My Science Council Hat

Applicant Support Mentors

Laurence is a Chartered Scientist and has 30 years experience of working in the academic and commercial research environment, both in the UK and in the USA. During this career he has been involved in the development of novel methodologies in the areas of genomics, protein biochemistry and molecular biology. He is currently a Consultant Researcher at the Institute of Molecular Pathology, and an Associate Professor at the University of Queensland. He is a member of the RSci and RScTeach panels for the Institute of Science and Technology in Medicine, and a member of the UK Commission for Science, Technology and the Environment. He is also involved in the RSciTeach panels for the Institute of Science and Technology in Medicine, and a member of the RSciTeach panels for the Institute of Science and Technology in Medicine.

Stephen Fearon CSci, Applicant Support Mentor

My Registration Credentials

Laurence Stuart Dawkins-Hall FIScT, C.Sci
Chartered Scientist

Registered Scientist
Part I

- Benefits of Registration
- Applying for Registration
- Which Register?: RSciTech, RSci, CSci

What is the Science Council?

Registered charity with a Royal Charter
Three priority areas:
- Enhance professionalism in science via registration
- Voice on policy issues in science e.g. diversity, vocational routes, degree provision
- Support member bodies to be more effective
A membership organisation of 35+ UK professional bodies and learned societies
License professional bodies to award RSciTech, RSci, CSci and CSciTeach

What is professional registration?

Professional registration with the Science Council provides independent recognition of your achievements and maintaining the exact standards required to join the global community of professional scientists.

Historically, especially in academic settings, there has been an absence of accreditation for technicians translating into a substantive career pathway.

Licenced Bodies (LBs): Examples

- IChemE
- IET
- Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine
- Royal Society of Chemistry
- Royal Society of Biology
- Society of Biology
Benefits of Registration:

Working with Accreditors

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In their own words....IBMS

Benefits of Registration

Validation of skills
Career Development
CPD

Networking

Confidence building
Outside prospects

Networking

Job prospects

Promotion

Networking

Job prospects
Registration Impacts

Person Specification

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Ensuring status & opportunity for technical roles across UK research, teaching & innovation

Professional Registration is part of the Technician Commitment

Decide which register is right for you

Choose which assessment route to take – written or face to face

Consider your examples of meeting the competences

Select which professional body you want to join

Apply through our common application process

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Applying for Registration: 5 Steps

5 Steps to Registration

Step 1:

Decide which Register is right for you

- Reflect on experience
- Work through Self help materials
- Ask the science Council Mentors for suggestions
- Make sure you can meet the competencies
- If necessary implement a CPD plan of action to fully meet criterion
- Remember this is not time assessed so take your time!
Professional Registers

Continuing Professional Development
RSciTech → RSci → CSci
Application in the workplace
Knowledge and skills base

Levels versus Register

It is equivalent experience paramount

Experience Level

Is a PhD any advantage?

No!

Registration is a Vocational accreditation
Not an academic qualification

Practice is equivalent to Qualifications

The following academic criteria is required for each register:
1. RSciTech applicants must have a level 5 qualification or equivalent learning and achievement.
2. RSci applicants must have a level 6 qualification or equivalent learning and achievement.
3. CSci and CSciTech applicants must have a level 7 qualification or equivalent learning and achievement.

*Equivalent refers to the QAA (Quality Assurance Agency for Education) descriptors. (Note: All round professional competence will be the deciding factor, and there are several other ways in which the required knowledge, understanding and skills can be demonstrated for applicants without the relevant qualifications.)
Candidates will typically be applying knowledge to their roles that is equivalent to at least QCF level 3. If they also have a qualification at this level or above it will contribute to their applications.

This is autonomous practice within pre-set SOPs and typically comes from 1 year of professional practice.

What you need to demonstrate to become an RSciTech

Registered Scientist (RSci) is an award to provide recognition for those working in scientific and higher technical roles.

Candidates will typically be performing at QCF level 5 and will be applying this knowledge to their roles. It provides recognition in its own right but can also be a springboard to recognition as a Chartered Scientist.

This level of performance is normally equivalent to about 2 years in a Professional setting.

Unlike RSci Tech, RSci are expected to operate according to non standard procedures.

What you need to demonstrate to become an RSci

What you need to demonstrate to become an CSci

Chartered Scientist (CSci) is a well-established award, with over 12,000 scientists having achieved it since its launch in 2004.

Candidates will typically be in senior scientific or managerial roles, working at QCF level 7 and applying their knowledge in their roles. Chartered status is a well-established benchmark across the professions.

Typical CSci have practiced their craft for about 5 years and their position entails managerial responsibilities but might not be an actual managers job.

In the case of CSci, lack of a formal level #7 (M) qualification can be rectified by submission of an equivalency report in addition to the standard competency document.

This additional equivalency document is ONLY REQUIRED for CSci.
Use a combination of general and experiential knowledge, understanding and skills to be able to optimise and engage in the application of existing and emerging science and technology.

What is Chartered Scientist?

Chartered Scientist is a professional registration that recognises a high level of skill and experience independent of discipline. It provides recognition for professional practice and experience and thus complements the academic qualifications you might have.

Typically, professionals need to have been working for 4-6 years to achieve this and must either have a Masters level qualification or be able to demonstrate that they are working at this level.

What is Chartered Scientist?

Chartered Scientist is accepted for the purposes of Directive 2005/36/EC as a regulated profession with the Science Council appointed as the Competent Authority. The Directive works on the basic principle that an individual fully qualified to practise a regulated profession in one member state should be treated, in principle, as qualified to practise that same profession in another member state.

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Typical Registrant Profile

Increasing Experience/Skills

- 1+ year experience
  - Working but with supervision
- 2-5 years experience
  - Autonomous working
  - Lab management duties
- 5+ years
  - Autonomous working
  - Management responsibilities
  - Multiple Projects
  - Level 7 or equivalent

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Step 2:
Choose which assessment route to take

Written or face to face

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Step 3:
Consider your examples of meeting the competences

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5 Steps to Registration

Step 4:
Select which professional body you want to join

- RSciTech (affiliate or associate grade)
- RSci (associate or member grade)
- CSci (member or fellow grade)
- CSciTech (member or fellow grade)
- CSCh (member or fellow grade)

☑ Associate Member eq. Rsci Tech
☑ Full Membership eq. to CSci

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5 Steps to Registration

Step 5:
Apply through our Common Application Process (CAP)

Common Application Portal (CAP)
https://sciencecounciluk3.smapply.io/

Universal Portal: Survey Monkey

Create your User Profile
Upload File(s)

Competency boot straps: Real time Guidance

This means that you can explain the major reasons for undertaking new and different work. For example, you may, for instance, describe how you:

- Are involved in carrying out a new procedure, process, or design, you should be able to explain from a technical perspective why you are doing this and why it is relevant to the new area of work.
- Remember to include outputs, as well as inputs.

Find more in-depth guidance on the useful information section on our website.

The research groups under my supervision rely on a mix of methods to image their protein labs; some use chemiluminescence in combination with X-ray film, and therefore use a film developer with high maintenance. Other groups have upgraded to chemiluminescence scanner a decade ago, while one...

Costs of CAP

- CSci: £45
- RSci: £20
- RSci Tech: £15

- Registration Fee
- Membership Fee
- Application Fee

- Determined by Licensed Body
- £15
- £55
- £15

- Total cost & RSci Tech RSci ~ £100
- Total cost CSci ~ £150

Further information?

- Video guiding you through competency report
- IST Materials on Professional registration
- Laurence Dawkins-Wat
- lsh11@le.ac.uk
- LinkedIn Profile
- Mentoring CV
- Reference Material
- How to apply for Professional Registration:
  www.sciencecouncil.org
- Details available on Professional registration
- Cost of Professional registration
Thank you and good luck!