Remote Professional Registration Workshop: Competency & CPD
Part II: **RSciTech**, **RSci** & **CSci**

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**Survey Monkey Apply!**
Objectives

- Defining competencies (A_D/E1)
- Competency examples (A_D/E1)
- Anatomy of good answers
- CAP submission: What next?
- Registrant Standards
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, assessor, CPD assessor & trainer

www.sciencecouncil.org
Laurence Dawkins-Hall FIScT(Reg), CSci, CBiol, Applicant Support Mentor

Laurence is a Chartered Scientist and has 30 years’ experience of working, as a technician, in higher education and life science research institutes, throughout the UK and in the USA. During his career he has been engaged with scientific research and communicated science via outreach activities, teaching, training and publishing. He completed a degree in Biomedical sciences and his technical expertise pertains to molecular and cell biology, protein biochemistry & clinical genomics. He is currently a Registrant Assessor for the Institute of Science & Technology (IST) and runs registration workshops at the University of Leicester and nationally for the IST. He holds a Fellowship with the IST (FIScT).

Attending Laurence’s virtual professional registration workshops? Find his slides here:

Part one: [Introduction to Professional Registration](#)

Part two CSci: [CSci Competence Report Masterclass](#)


[https://sciencecouncil.org/about-us/our-team/](https://sciencecouncil.org/about-us/our-team/)
Applying for Registration: 5 Steps

1. Apply through our common application process
2. Select which professional body you want to join
3. Consider your examples of meeting the competences
4. Decide which register is right for you
5. Choose which assessment route to take – written or face to face
Practice is equivalent to Qualifications but requires demonstrating: Eq. Report

Qualifications

Completed - Mar 2 2020

Equivalency Report

Synopsis

The following academic criteria is required for each register:

1. RSciTech applicants must have a level 3 qualification or equivalent* learning and achievement.

2. RSci applicants must have a level 5 qualification or equivalent* learning and achievement.

3. CSci and CSciTeach 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.)
Synopsis of each register

Science Council Registers

- **CSci**
  - Chartered Scientist
  - 5 years

- **RSci**
  - Registered Scientist
  - 2 years

- **RSciTech**
  - Registered Science Technician
  - 1 year

Registered Science Technicians work with minimal supervision in technical roles, delivering essential scientific services and support within laboratories, schools and universities, hospitals and in many other workplaces.

www.sciencouncil.org
Completing your Competency Report

Updates for registrants & applicants
RSciTech | RSci | CSci | CSciTeach

The Science Council is open for applications

The Science Council's Common Application Process (CAP) has now reopened and we are accepting applications. Find the new online application system here.
What are the competencies?

Non-Technical skills, e.g. organisation, Working with others, implementing and following standards, effective, H&S communication & problem solving

B. Application of knowledge and understanding
C. Personal Responsibility
D. Interpersonal Skills
E. Professional Practice
F. Professionalism

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There are no right and wrong answers!

- **Use one competency example to create a single narrative** linking sub competencies

- **Use one theme to address multiple comp:** different aspects of teaching, Field work

- **Think laterally:** Don’t Just focus on lab duties! If you are involved with report writing and/or Committees, e.g. *Gender equality, equality & diversity, Athena Swann, Technician Commitment* include
Balancing bench work (A) with other duties: RSciTech

Equipment maintenance

Lab cleaning
Disposal of waste
Tip recycling

Experiments:
Follow SOP

Balancing bench work (A) with other duties:

Stocktaking & ordering

Lab Housekeeping
Equipment maintenance
Lab cleaning
Disposal of waste
Tip recycling

Experiments:
Follow COSHH

Literature review:
Existing method

Balancing bench work (A) with other duties:

Equipment upkeep
Balancing bench work (A) with other duties: RSci

- Equipment upkeep
- Improved performance

- Independent Experiments
  - Research support
  - Student mentoring

- Literature review
- New Protocols

- Implement H & S

- Stocktaking & ordering

Lab management:
- Organisation of equipment
- Organisation of consumables
- Lab rotors
- Disposal of waste
- Tip recycling
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>Application of Knowledge &amp; understanding</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adapting (FW; COVID), improving &amp; troubleshooting experimental methods and/or data analysis, e.g. new equipment methods (HT), data analysis protocols, field work</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>B</th>
<th>personal responsibility</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Safe working practices for self and others, e.g. COSHH, CLEAPPS &amp; training. Producing SOPs. Improving Aseptic technique. Lab equipment maintenance. Maternity. Lockdown. Scheduling/Time management. Lesson plans</td>
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<tr>
<th>C</th>
<th>Interpersonal Skills communication</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Communicating specialist knowledge; stock taking and ordering. Supply &amp; equipment problems. Training</td>
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<th>D</th>
<th>Professional practice</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Updating bench methods and equipment protocols. New std of practice, e.g. HTA, Consumables evaluation. Method evaluation &amp; selection, e.g. in silico, wet trial</td>
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Balancing bench work (A) with other duties:

**CSci (Lab Manager)**

- Organisation of equipment
- Organisation of consumables
- Lab rotors
- Disposal of waste
- Tip recycling

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**Experiments**

- Research support
- To Post Docs/PI’s
- Student mentoring
- Literature review

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**Lab management:**
- Organisation of equipment
- Organisation of consumables
- Lab rotors
- Disposal of waste
- Tip recycling

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**Equipment upkeep**
- Improved performance

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**Stocktaking & ordering**
Balancing bench work (A) with other duties:

**CSci (Line Manager)**

- Managing teams
- Lab Health and Safety
- Dept. Health and Safety: e.g. Lab inductions
- Writing reports

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**Lab Infrastructure:**
- New Equipment
- Space allocation
- Water purification
- Equipment & safety

**Equipment Contracts**

**Managing teams**

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**Stock auditing**

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**Building infrastructure:**
- Estates
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Application of Knowledge &amp; understanding</th>
<th>Application of Knowledge &amp; understanding</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adapting protocols/ lab systems</td>
<td>Service provision/lockdown. Troubleshooting</td>
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<td>data management, Assay development/opt.</td>
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<tr>
<td>personal responsibility</td>
<td>Managing teams/projects/equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health COSHH: e.g. databasing forms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interpersonal Skills communication</td>
<td>Clinical (HTA), ISO, structural, data protection</td>
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<td>Outreach, estates, Technology companies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Teams/zoom meetings, foreign students, AS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maternity Cover, lockdown, Equip. problems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional practice</td>
<td>Field work/estates/Time management</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Project achieve On budget &amp; time?</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Teaching class, HT, New curriculum, AS,</td>
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Competency Report

- 5 key skill sets or competencies (A-E)
  - 3-4 Skill sub categories (16 total)
    - 300-1000 words per category
    - 3000-5000/10,000 words in total
- 1-3 case studies per category: Reflective practice
- 1-3 case studies taken from the last 5 years

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The Competence Report: 5 most-common mistakes

1. **We, not I**
   Now's your time to shine! We are awarding registration to you, not your team, so in all your explanations, you need to be clear on what your individual role was. If your entire answer references "us" and "we" with no "I" or "me," then you will need to reformulate what you've written.

2. **Being too brief**
   After you've written your response, read it back and think about whether an assessor would be able to visualise what your role was. If they can't, you have not provided enough detail.

3. **Lacking depth**
   It isn't just about what you did, it's about how and why you did it. You can only be awarded registration when our assessors are sure you know the impetus behind, and results from your work.

4. **No outcomes**
   You need to demonstrate that you understand the difference that your work makes long-term. If you have improved a procedure, what does that mean in real terms? How do your colleagues benefit? What happens to the standard of your results?

5. **Not referencing the heading**
   The competence report is broken into 5 sections. Read the section heading thoroughly before you write your response. You need to make sure you have fully absorbed what it is asking.

These are not just "top tips", they are what you need to follow to get your competence report to a high enough standard for it to be assessed.

Arm yourself with these pieces of advice, read the standards for RSciTech, RSci and CSci, utilise our competence report planner, explore the Resource Centre, and get it right first time. 
[Continue with your application here.](#)
In order to gain professional registration you will need to complete a competence report which will then be assessed by 2 assessors who are registered scientists themselves.

The process to render a decision can take anything from 3 weeks to 2 months. It is rare for somebody to fail outright: Licencing bodies will work with registrants to ‘plus the holes’ in their competency answers & they can then resubmit (at no extra cost).

Please note: If for example you apply for Rsci and your application is deemed to not meet registration standards, you will not be awarded an RSciTech as a ‘consolation prize’.

In short take your time to make the best application possible!
Where do I take my competency materials from?

If you have changed positions in the last 5 years, make reference to both jobs in terms of mixing and matching competencies and also validate those separate skill sets by utilizing references from both positions.

The 5-year span can include voluntary work! It can also include intercalated practice.

Contact registration@sciencecouncil.org about provision of a second reference.
Resources: Extended competency


CSci Extended Report

Email: registration@sciencecouncil.org
Resources

https://sciencecounciluk3.smapply.io

Mechanics of CAP

My Competency Reports: registration@scienceCouncil.org

Video guiding you through competency report
Thank you and good luck!