



Job Description – T Level and Higher Technical Qualification (HTQ) Lead

Title:

T Level and Higher Technical Qualification (HTQ) Lead

Reports to:

Head of Technician Pathway Development

Working time:

35 hours per week up to a maximum of 4 years (requests for part-time and flexible working arrangements including secondments will be considered)

Working Location:

Science Council offices, London with regular UK travel

Background

The Science Council sets the standards for practising scientists, through professional registration. We believe that every scientist has a responsibility to society, and themselves, to work with integrity, keep their skills and knowledge up to date and consider how their efforts affect the world around them.

The Science Council works with science professional bodies to represent the needs of the professional science community. We also license members to award one or more of the Science Council Registers to their own members: Registered Science Technician (RSciTech), Registered Scientist (RSci), Chartered Scientist (CSci) and Chartered Science Teacher (CSciTeach).

Purpose

The Science Council along with member bodies are embarking upon an exciting project to support technical pathways into the sciences. Generously funded by the Gatsby Foundation, the project shall seek to embed and align professional registration to apprenticeships, T Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

This is a truly collaborative project that involves co-ordinating activities with multiple professional bodies and partner organisations to deliver upon our shared objectives of providing greater status to technicians and technical education.

The project is centred on several key themes, namely; T Levels & Higher Technical Qualifications, Apprenticeships, individuals and employers. We are now looking for an experienced individual to lead on the strand associated with T Levels and Higher Technical Education.

Leading on this project strand the post-holder shall devise and implement strategies to influence the infrastructure of the technical education landscape to embed Registered Scientist and Registered Science Technician standards into relevant T Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications. The post-holder will also develop activities and initiatives to influence more individuals to consider technical education as their pathway of choice and develop the processes and support mechanisms to enable them to ultimately become professionally registered as a result.

Responsibilities

- Explore, devise and implement a mechanism that would enable T Level and Higher Technical Qualification learners to use the achievement of their qualification to act as recognition toward becoming professionally registered
- Develop and deliver workshops, materials and support for schools and training providers to promote the professional registers to their learners
- Explore the progression opportunities from RSciTech to RSci and how this could seamlessly be achieved for T Level and Higher Technical Qualification learners
- Develop a programme of activity to support training providers in achieving industry placements for T Level learners
- Devise and implement a programme of support for a number of health and science T Level learners that shall span from day one of their enrolment to completion, and lead to professional registration
- Work with science employers to explore their needs in respect of higher technical education, with a view to being able to shape emerging government policy in this area
- Build strong relationships and work collaboratively with fellow colleagues and external partner/member organisations
- Build good working relationships with the stakeholder bodies, including but not limited to, member bodies, the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education, Department for Education, Education and Skills Funding Agency, Awarding Bodies, Ofqual, employers, training providers and so on
- Influence and be influenced by Science Council and member bodies' governance structures in order to seek common ground and a collaborative approach that is supported by governance and policy
- Providing timely data and progress reports
- To carry out other duties as may be deemed by the Head of Technician Pathways or Chief Executive

The post-holder will also be expected to

- Develop a good understating of the professional registers, including the associated standards, qualifying criteria and how they are governed
- Be able to apply knowledge and interrogate/evaluate data to help direct courses of action based on evidence and consensus
- Value the needs and interests of apprentices and technicians

Knowledge, skills and experience

- Demonstrable understanding of the technical education landscape, preferably in the sciences
- An understanding of the reform that has been occurring in technical education over recent years including the proposed T Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications
- Experience of building relationships and working collaboratively with external organisations and individuals to foster a team approach to activities in hand
- Experience of managing complex projects and activities, and developing innovative solutions to problems
- An understanding of the needs of technicians and technical job roles
- Experience of being involved with technical education, whether that be as a training provider, employer, professional body, awarding body, public body or alternative means
- The ability to work collectively with a number of differing stakeholders
- Being able to influence both internal colleagues and external organisations, whilst maintaining strong working relationships
- Being able to solve problems and anticipate potential issues

- Proficient with the use of standard Microsoft packages such as Word, Outlook, Excel and PowerPoint
- Being able to communicate and present clearly with a range of audiences in both written and verbal formats

Desirable

- Experience or knowledge of professional bodies
- An awareness of apprenticeships and any potential linkages to T Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications
- An understanding of science employers along with challenges/opportunities facing the science sector
- Some experience or awareness of budgeting and monitoring