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FEBRUARY 2022 - APPRENTICESHIP NEWSLETTER

In this newsletter we celebrate [apprenticeships](#), exploring how they can ignite and grow careers across the sciences.

This edition is being published at the same time as the [15th National Apprenticeship Week 2022 \(England\)](#), and the [3rd Apprenticeship Week \(Northern Ireland\)](#).



The 15th annual week-long celebration of apprenticeships takes place between **7th -13th February** 2022. [#NAW2022](#)

Over **1,200** virtual and in-person events will take place across England to showcase the impact of apprenticeships.

More information can be found using the link button below. Some examples of activity from members of the Science Council include:

[Career pathway events for year 11 students](#)

[Career launchpad events](#)

Employer apprenticeship recruitment events

Apprentice of the year awards

Sharing a 'day in a life' from a science career

Apprentice membership offers

[Link - National Apprenticeship Week \(England\)](#)

During the NI apprenticeship week, there'll be a number of in-person and virtual events taking place. Events will be hosted by a range of stakeholders including local councils, employers, Further Education colleges, universities, private training providers and others.

[Link - National Apprenticeship Week \(Northern Ireland\)](#)

RSci
Registered
Scientist

RSciTech
Registered
Science Technician

Laboratory Scientist - Level 5

**Completed this
apprenticeship?**

You can now apply to be a
Registered Scientist (RSci)
using a shortened application.

Science
Council

You could have your apprenticeship achievement recognised by becoming professionally registered as a **Registered Scientist (RSci)** or **Registered Science Technician (RSciTech)**.

Using your apprenticeship certificate, you may be able to apply for RSci or RSciTech through a shortened application method.

The list of eligible apprenticeships continue to grow. Those confirmed to date include:

Laboratory Scientist Level 6 ST0626 Version 1.0 – **Fully aligned to RSci**

Healthcare Science Practitioner Level 6 ST0413 Version 1.0 – **Fully aligned to RSci**

Nuclear Scientist & Nuclear Engineer Level 6 ST0289 Version 1.0 - **Fully aligned to RSci**

Food Industry Technical Professional Level 6 ST0197 Version 1.0 – **Fully aligned to RSci**

Laboratory Scientist Level 5 ST0247 Version 1.0 – **Fully aligned to RSci**

Technician Scientist Level 5 ST0597 Version 1.0 – **Fully aligned to RSci**

Nuclear Technician Level 5 ST0380 Version 1.0 – **Majority Aligned to RSci**

Senior Metrology Technician Level 5 ST0283 Version 1.0 - **Fully aligned to RSci**

Healthcare Science Associate Level 4 ST0220 Version 1.0 – **Fully aligned to RSciTech**

Science Manufacturing Technician Level 3 ST0250 Version 1.0 – **Fully aligned to RSciTech**

Food Technologist Level 3 ST0198 Version 1.0 – **Fully aligned to RSciTech**

Metrology Technician Level 3 ST0282 Version 1.0 – **Fully aligned to RSciTech**

Water Industry Treatment Process Technician Level 3 ST1291 Version 1.0 – **Fully aligned to RSciTech** – Awaiting first available enrolment date

Laboratory Technician Level 3 ST0248 Version 1.0 – **Fully Aligned to RSciTech**

Laboratory Technician Level 3 ST0248 Version 1.1 & 1.2 – **Majority aligned to RSciTech**

Find out which apprenticeships are eligible for the shortened route here.



sciencecouncil.org/apprentice-apply

For more information on how to apply using the shortened route, please click on the purple image above.

The apprenticeship mapping work continues with more results to be confirmed in the upcoming months.

The advertisement features a background image of a scientist in a white lab coat, safety glasses, and a black face mask, looking through a microscope in a laboratory setting. A dark blue banner at the top left contains the text 'Laboratory Scientist - Level 6'. A teal box with a purple border on the left contains the text 'Completed this apprenticeship?' followed by 'You can now apply to be a Registered Scientist (RSci) using a shortened application.' The Science Council logo is in the bottom right corner.

Laboratory Scientist - Level 6

Completed this apprenticeship?
You can now apply to be a Registered Scientist (RSci) using a shortened application.

Science Council

‘ *By gaining professional registration, it speaks a thousand words for future annual reviews and applications, in addition to showing my dedication to excellence* ,

Sophie Galloway
Research Technician, University of Nottingham

#NAW2022

Registered Scientist (RSci) - Case Study

In this case study we feature Sophie Galloway (University of Nottingham), who has recently applied for professional registration using the shortened application route. Sophie shares her experience of accessing and completing apprenticeships, and how this has supported her career.

Why did you decide to apply for an apprenticeship?

After A-levels I knew that I wanted a career within a science discipline, but I was unsure of how to enter the industry. After researching online, I found an opportunity to be an apprentice at the University of Nottingham, within the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science (SVMS) as a Research Technician, supporting research projects across the University. Since that time, I have been able to progress in both my career and my learning through a level 3, level 5 and level 6 apprenticeship in the sciences.

How did your apprenticeship impact your career path?

I started on a Level 3 Applied Sciences apprenticeship. This then led to a Level 5 Laboratory Scientist apprenticeship, delivered by the University of Kent, and most recently, I am now studying for a degree with the University of Kent (BSc in Applied Bioscience) through a Level 6 Laboratory Scientist apprenticeship. This experience has led me to progress through the technical service levels at the University of Nottingham.

What skills or experiences did you value most from working as an apprentice?

Through assignments and exams required for level 3 and level 5 apprenticeships, I have developed independent learning and investigation and research skills, which has put me in a better position to meet the requirements of my current degree study.

By being an apprentice, I have had direct access to experienced technicians and academics who can share their expertise. Throughout my apprenticeships, I have been allocated dedicated mentors, supplemented by a keen and supportive team who are always willing to share their experiences and help in understanding how to apply knowledge into practice.

I would say do it, I cannot recommend it enough. I would also say that do not let age be a barrier. Apprenticeships are there for everyone, young or old. Apprenticeships allow you to learn in a flexible way. I'm fortunate in that my employer has been protective in ensuring I have time and focus for my apprenticeship studies. I have found by allocating Tuesday as my study day, I have been able to complete any learning activities (through an online learning platform - Moodle), without the distraction of other work commitments.

What were the key motivations that led to you applying for professional registration?

I have recently applied for Registered Scientist (RSci) through the apprenticeship shortened application route. I was aware of professional registration as my technician colleagues are great advocates of the benefits and recommended that I investigated it. I attended a Higher Education Technician Summit to find out more, as well as doing some of my own research online. Professional registration offers the recognition of the work I have done and can do. By gaining professional registration, it speaks a thousand words for future annual reviews and applications, in addition to showing my dedication to excellence.

I attended an End Point Assessment (EPA) event earlier in 2021 to prepare for the final assessment of my Level 5 apprenticeship and to find out more about the shortened applications. The shortened application has allowed me to apply for professional registration with much of the requirements being met through the completion of my Level 5 Laboratory Scientist apprenticeship.

What do you value most from being a member of your professional body?

By being part of a professional body, I hope to broaden my network and meet other people to share experiences and ideas. I also consider this an opportunity to attend webinars and conferences to broaden my knowledge. The Institute of Science and Technology was recommended, by my colleagues, as a professional body providing great, lifelong, career development support.

Employer – University of Nottingham

The University of Nottingham is recognised as an Employer Champion by the Science Council in recognition of their support for the continued professional development and professional registration of technical staff.

The University is also a signatory of the Technician Commitment. This is a pledge to support their technicians through a commitment that ensures greater visibility, recognition, career development and sustainability for technicians across all disciplines.

[Link to case study - Sophie Galloway](#)

We are now able to offer online workshops to support apprentices in exploring the benefits of professional body membership and professional registration. The support includes 'pre' and 'post' workshop guidance.

If you are an apprentice, training provider or employer and would like more information, please get in contact with Tom Cheek (Apprenticeship Lead), using the contact details provided at the end of this newsletter.

For more information on any aspect of the Science Council's approach and engagement with apprenticeships, please contact the Apprenticeship Lead - Tom Cheek
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