

Eligibility guidance for the award of Chartered Scientist

Introduction

Members who wish to become Chartered Scientists (CSci) are required to satisfy the following criteria:

- be a Member or Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry (MRSC or FRSC);
- hold a Master's-level (M-level) qualification;
- have 5 years postgraduate experience at Master's level; and
- be in current employment utilising their scientific background.

On the eligibility form, provide details of your:

- education – a Master's degree or equivalent;
- experience; and
- choice of supporter.

All applicants will be assessed and reviewed through the Royal Society of Chemistry's Admissions Committee. The process is designed to ensure all of the Science Council's standards and regulations are met:



Education

Chartered Scientist is set at the same high level as other chartered titles such as Chartered Mathematician and Chartered Engineer, with the exemplifying educational standard being at M-Level. Candidates for CSci must have met the M-Level learning outcomes as exemplified by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) descriptors. The standard route is through an accredited Master's degree.

Accredited Master's degree held

A Master's degree programme accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry satisfies the Science Council's academic requirements. Details of Royal Society of Chemistry accredited degrees can be found on the website: www.rsc.org/Accredit

Non-accredited Master's degree held

Qualifications are evaluated by the Royal Society of Chemistry. It is advised that you send in a copy of your transcript to aid the review. If you have any specific questions contact our Qualifications Specialist via email at membership@rsc.org or via telephone: 01223 432141.

No Master's degree held

If no Master's qualification is held an equivalence form will need to be completed. Members must indicate how they are working at a Master's level within work, including details of projects where they have been required to use problem solving or have implemented new processes. Further details are described on the form. No evidence is initially required, however you may be asked to supply further details once your information has been received.

Competence and Experience

Members are required to demonstrate a set of professional competencies which have been prescribed by the Science Council

Five overarching competency statements illustrate the professional skills and attributes Chartered Scientists are expected to demonstrate through a combination of their knowledge and experience:

- Deal with complex scientific issues, both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences;
- Exercise self-direction and originality in solving problems, and exercise substantial personal autonomy in planning and implementing tasks at a professional level;

- Continue to advance their knowledge, understanding and competence to a high level and demonstrate a commitment to CPD;
- Demonstrate an understanding and commitment to Health and Safety and environmental issues related to employment; and
- Comply with the relevant Codes of Conduct .

These statements are broken down further into specific attributes that all Chartered Scientists will possess. Before you consider applying for CSci, you should be familiar with the competencies required.

Five years post graduation-level experience at Master's level is considered sufficient to meet the CSci competencies.

Details of your experience should be in your CV, which must accompany your registration form. It is advised that you give a brief explanation of each job role you have held since graduating. Please do not feel as though you should restrict your CV to two pages, it can go over if necessary.

Supporter

Before applying for CSci you are required to identify a supporter. This person should provide feedback on the application and evidence at the end of the process.

Your supporter should know your day to day work and be able to comment on activities that you have undertaken. The summary they provide will help to inform the reviewing panel how you meet the requirements and how you will participate in the annual revalidation successfully.

Your supporter should also hold CSci; however we are aware that some people work in areas where finding a suitable CSci supporter may create problems. We can apply discretion and consider people who are members of other professional bodies or hold other forms of Chartered status.

If your proposed supporter wishes to discuss their role further then please ask them to contact the Royal Society of Chemistry via email at csci@rsc.org or via telephone: 01223 432141.

Payment

The fee to apply for CSci status is £75 which is payable when you submit your eligibility form. If you are found not to be eligible to apply for CSci, the fee will be refunded. Once you hold CSci status, there is an annual revalidation fee of £40 payable along with your membership renewal fee.

Final Check

Please ensure that you have met the requirements and include the following documentation:

- Completed registration form, including details of a supporter;
- Up to date CV;
- £75 fee; and
- Equivalence Report form if required.

Please email all documentation and supplementary evidence to the Royal Society of Chemistry membership team csci@rsc.org

Membership and Qualifications Royal Society of Chemistry Thomas Graham House Science Park Milton Road Cambridge CB4 0WF