SQA qualifications mapped against Science Council competences

Level	Qualification	Register	Competences met
4	HNC Applied Sciences	RSciTech	A1, A2, A3, B2, B3, B4, C1, D2, E1, E2
4	HNC Pharmacy Services	RSciTech	A1, A3, B4, C1, C2, C3, D2, E1, E2
5	HND Applied Sciences	RSci	A1, B1, B2, B4, C1, D1, D2, E1, E2
5	HND Applied Biological Science	RSci	A1, B1, B4, C1, D1, D2, E2
5	HND Applied Bioscience	RSci	Pending
5	HND Applied Biotechnology	RSci	A1, B1, B4, C1, D1, D2, E1, E2
5	HND Applied Chemistry	RSci	A1, B1, B4, C1, D1, D2, E1, E2
5	HND Biomedical Science	RSci	A1, B1, B4, C1, D1, D2, E1, E2
5	HND Environmental Science	RSci	A1, B1, B4, C1, D1, D2, E1, E2
3	NC Applied Sciences	RSciTech	A1, A2, A3, C1, D2
3	NC Pharmacy Services	RSciTech	A1, A3, B2, C1, D2, E1
3	NPA Laboratory Science	RSciTech	A1, B2, C1, E1, E2
4	PDA Assessment and Supply of Individual Patients' Medicines	RSciTech	Pending
4	PDA Laboratory Science	RSciTech	A1, B2, B3, C1, E1, E2
3	SVQ 3 Laboratory and Associated Technical Activities (Educational Science)	RSciTech	Pending
3	SVQ 3 Laboratory and Associated Technical Activities (Industrial Science)	RSciTech	Pending
3	SVQ 3 Laboratory Science (Analytical and Process)	RSciTech	Pending
3	SVQ 3 Pharmacy Services	RSciTech	A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, B3, B4, C1, C2, C3, D2, D3, E1, E2
3	SVQ 3 Scientific Manufacture (Biotechnology Processing)	RSciTech	Pending
3	SVQ 3 Scientific Manufacture (Filing/finishing Processing)	RSciTech	Pending
5	SVQ 4 Laboratory Science (Toxicological Study) Management	RSci	Pending
5	SVQ 4 Scientific Manufacture (Biotechnology Process Management)	RSci	Pending

Registered Science Technician (RSciTech)

The following standards were agreed by the New Registers Advisory Group of the Science Council on 12 July 2011 for the award of Registered Science Technician (RSciTech) status in the pilot phase of the new registers project.

Competences

The professional skills and attributes that applicants are expected to demonstrate — through a combination of knowledge and experience — are set out in five key areas. Applicants will need to demonstrate how they meet each of the following competences:

A: Application of knowledge and understanding	
Identify and use relevant scientific understanding, methods and skills to complete tasks and address well-defined problems.	
A1:	Apply knowledge of underlying concepts and principles associated with area of work.
A2:	Review and select appropriate scientific techniques, procedures and methods to undertake tasks.
A3:	Interpret and evaluate data and make sound judgements in relation to scientific concepts.
B: Personal responsibility	
Exercise personal responsibility in planning and implementing tasks according to prescribed protocols.	
B1:	Work consistently and effectively with minimal supervision to appropriate standards and protocols.
B2:	Manage and apply safe working practices.
B3:	Accept responsibility for the quality of work of self and others.
B4:	Take responsibility for completing tasks and procedures as well as using judgement within defined parameters.
C: Interpersonal skills	
Demonstrate effective communication and interpersonal skills.	
C1:	Demonstrate effective and appropriate communication skills.
C2:	Demonstrate interpersonal and behavioural skills.
C3:	Demonstrate an ability to work effectively with others.

D: Professional practice	
Apply appropriate theoretical and practical methods according to protocol.	
D1:	Recognise problems and apply appropriate scientific methods to identify causes and achieve solutions.
D2:	Identify, organise and use resources effectively to complete tasks.
D3:	Participate in continuous performance improvement.
E: Professional standards	
Demonstrate a personal commitment to professional standards.	
E1:	Comply with relevant codes of conduct and practice.
E2:	Maintain and enhance competence in own area of practice within structured and managed environment.

Education

The exemplifying educational requirement for RSciTech is a relevant qualification at QCF level 3. Candidates may also meet the requirement by a combination of work-based learning and other qualifications.

Continuing professional development

Licensed Bodies are required to monitor the CPD of their registrants annually. Registered Science Technicians must comply with the Science Council CPD Standards for Registrants which state that:

Registrants must:

- maintain a continuous, up-to-date and accurate record of their CPD activities
- demonstrate that their CPD activities are a mixture of learning activities relevant to current or future practice (see learning activities below)
- seek to ensure that their CPD has benefited the quality of their practice
- seek to ensure that their CPD has benefited the users of their work
- present a written profile containing evidence of their CPD on request

Learning activities

Registrants' CPD should be a mixture of learning activities relevant to current or future practice and should include activities in at least three (exceptionally two) of the following categories:

- work-based learning (eg supervising staff/students, reflective practice)
- professional activity (eg involvement in a professional body, mentoring)
- formal/educational (eg writing articles/papers, further education)
- self-directed learning (eg reading journals, reviewing books/articles)
- other (eg voluntary work, public service)

Code of conduct

Registered Science Technicians will agree to be bound by the code of professional conduct of their Licensed Body as well as by the Science Council Model Rules of Conduct for Registrants which state that:

Registrants must:

- exercise their professional skills and judgement to the best of their ability and discharge their professional responsibilities with integrity, serving as an example to others
- have regard at all times to the public interest
- do all in their power to ensure that their professional activities do not put the health and safety of others at risk
- when called upon to give a professional opinion, do so with objectivity and reliability
- never engage in corrupt practice
- undertake appropriate continuing professional development (CPD) and be able to demonstrate this to others
- further the interests of and maintain the dignity and welfare of their Licensed
- Body and profession

Approved: NRAG, 12 July 2011

Registered Scientist (RSci)

The following standards were agreed by the New Registers Advisory Group of the Science Council on 12 July 2011 for award of Registered Scientist (RSci) status in the pilot phase of the new registers project.

Competences

The professional skills and attributes that applicants are expected to demonstrate — through a combination of knowledge and experience — are set out in five key areas. Applicants will need to demonstrate how they meet each of the following competences:

A: Application of knowledge and understanding	
Identify and use relevant scientific understanding, methods and skills to address broadly-defined, complex problems.	
A1:	Develop, maintain and extend a sound theoretical approach to application of science and technology in practice.
A2:	Apply underlying scientific concepts, principles and techniques in the context of new and different areas of work.
A3:	Analyse, interpret and evaluate relevant scientific information, concepts and ideas and to propose solutions to problems.
B: Personal responsibility	
Exercise personal responsibility in planning and implementing tasks.	
B1:	Work autonomously while recognising limits of scope of practice.
B2:	Take responsibility for safe working practices and contribute to their evaluation and improvement.
B3:	Promote and ensure the application of quality standards.
B4:	Take responsibility for planning and developing courses of action as well as exercising autonomy and judgement within broad parameters.
C: Interpersonal skills	
Demonstrate effective communication and interpersonal skills.	
C1:	Demonstrate effective and appropriate communication skills.
C2:	Demonstrate interpersonal and behavioural skills.
C3:	Demonstrate productive working relationships and an ability to resolve problems.

D: Professional practice	
Apply appropriate theoretical and practical methods.	
D1:	Identify, review and select scientific techniques, procedures and methods to undertake tasks.
D2:	Contribute to the organisation of tasks and resources.
D3:	Participate in the design, development and implementation of solutions.
D4:	Contribute to continuous performance improvement.
E: Professional standards	
Demonstrate a personal commitment to professional standards.	
E1:	Comply with relevant codes of conduct and practice.
E2:	Maintain and enhance competence in own area of practice through professional development activity.

Education

The exemplifying educational requirement for RSci is a relevant qualification at QCF level 5. Candidates may also meet the requirement by a combination of work-based learning and other qualifications.

Continuing professional development

Licensed Bodies are required to monitor the CPD of their registrants annually. Registered Scientists must comply with the Science Council CPD Standards for Registrants which state that:

Registrants must:

- maintain a continuous, up-to-date and accurate record of their CPD activities
- demonstrate that their CPD activities are a mixture of learning activities relevant to current or future practice (see learning activities below)
- seek to ensure that their CPD has benefited the quality of their practice
- seek to ensure that their CPD has benefited the users of their work
- present a written profile containing evidence of their CPD on request

Learning activities

Registrants' CPD should be a mixture of learning activities relevant to current or future practice and should include activities in at least three (exceptionally two) of the following categories:

- work-based learning (eg supervising staff/students, reflective practice)
- professional activity (eg involvement in a professional body, mentoring)
- formal/educational (eg writing articles/papers, further education)
- self-directed learning (eg reading journals, reviewing books/articles)
- other (eg voluntary work, public service)

Code of conduct

Registered Scientists will agree to be bound by the code of professional conduct of their Licensed Body as well as by the Science Council Model Rules of Conduct for Registrants which state that:

Registrants must:

- exercise their professional skills and judgement to the best of their ability and discharge their professional responsibilities with integrity, serving as an example to others
- have regard at all times to the public interest
- do all in their power to ensure that their professional activities do not put the health and safety of others at risk
- when called upon to give a professional opinion, do so with objectivity and reliability
- never engage in corrupt practice
- undertake appropriate continuing professional development (CPD) and be able to demonstrate this to others
- further the interests of and maintain the dignity and welfare of their Licensed Body and profession

Approved: NRAG, 12 July 2011