



The CPD Standards Office is a unique organisation and was founded with the vision of understanding and enabling positive and successful CPD and learning experiences. As a highly specialised expert team, our university led research has equipped us with extensive expertise on all things CPD.

Between the work of the Professional Development Consortium and the CPD Standards Office dual CPD research and accreditation activities sharpen our knowledge and expertise. This enables us to work with individual coaches, training providers, employers, and membership organisations as a collaborative CPD network & community.

## CPD Requirements for Scientists

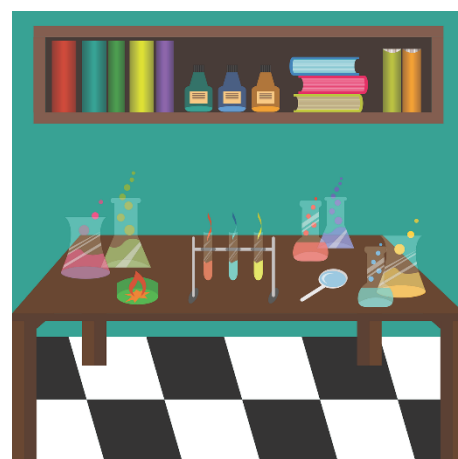
### The Science Council

The Science Council provides the quality assurance system for professionals working in science. The Council sets the standards for professional registration for practicing Scientists and Science Technicians across all scientific disciplines and they have approximately 35 licensed professional bodies. Scientists and Science Technicians are members of these professional bodies and are admitted to the professional registers and commit to undertaking Continuing Professional Development. Those Scientists who reach the required standards are recognised by the following designations CSci, CSciTeach, RSci and RSciTech.

The Science Council is a membership organisation made up of professional bodies and learned societies from across the full range of science-based disciplines. These include:

- BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT
- Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine
- The Geological Society of London (GEOLSOC)
- Institute of Food Science and Technology (IFST)

Each of these bodies have a CPD requirement in place. For example; The Geological Society of London recommends that members record 90 hours of CPD per annum. There are also various other professional bodies who do not stipulate any specific hours but recommend undertaking CPD.



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## Meeting Annual CPD Requirements

Professional Scientists are expected to meet their continuing professional development (CPD) requirements each year in order to remain on the Science Council register. Failure to do so may result in being removed from the registers.

There are two ways that professional development undertaken has visible benefits, according to the Science Council's CPD standards, these are:

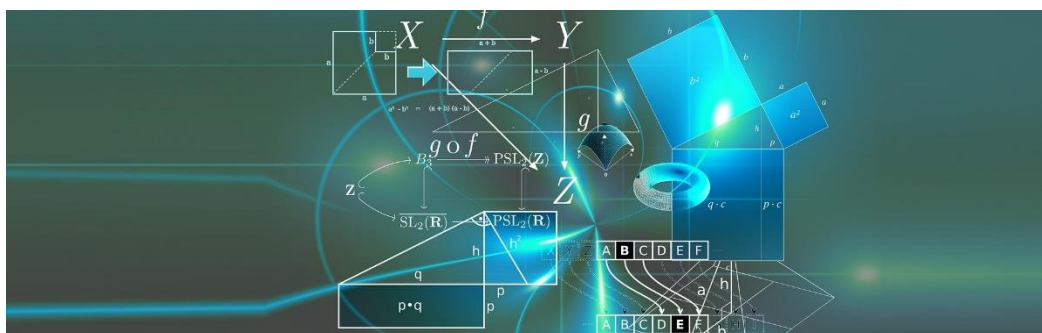
- Benefiting the quality of professional practice
- Benefiting the users of/or clients of the work i.e. the employees, customers, clients etc.

This is intended to ensure CPD becomes a valuable tool to improving practice as opposed to a box-ticking exercise for satisfying an arbitrary goal.

## Planning Activities

All Scientists are expected to engage in CPD each year, some of the things to consider include:

- Is this relevant to current or future Scientific practice and work?
- Will it contribute to the quality of the practice?
- Will it ultimately benefit the users of the services provided?



## CPD Activities

There are many ways to complete annual CPD hours, this can include work-based learning. Below are examples of how Scientists can complete their CPD:

Internal training – includes orientation programs, standard operating procedures and employee development

Experiential learning: preparation before commencing a new role or expanding an existing role

Discussions with colleagues – idea generation, problem solving, etc.

Participation in departmental or inter-departmental meetings and learning from others

Contributing to or leading the development of new standards or processes

Requesting and analysing feedback on performance from colleagues or clients

Participating in your employer's performance appraisal and goal setting process

## Events & Webinars

The Science Council list a variety of events and webinars that Scientists and Technicians can attend to help complete their annual CPD hours.

Here is a link to the Events page on the Science Councils website -

<https://sciencecouncil.org/category/event/>

**New Scientist Live** - New Scientist Live is for everyone from the curious to the big thinkers. 140+ dynamic speakers and presenters including; Scientists, Celebrities, Astronauts, Physicists, Biologists and Engineers. - <https://live.newscientist.com/welcome>

## Magazines

There are various magazines that Scientists can read which provide information on current research, updates to technology, career information and new discoveries. Here is a list of magazines we recommend reading as part of your CPD.

**The Scientist** - *The Scientist* is the magazine for life science professionals—a publication dedicated to covering a wide range of topics central to the study of cell and molecular biology, genetics, and other life-science fields - <https://www.the-scientist.com/>

**Science Mag** - Every day the news staff of *Science* magazine and our contributing freelancers bring you breaking news from the world of scientific research and science policy - <https://www.sciencemag.org/>

**Science Focus** - BBC Science Focus Magazine is the UK's leading science and technology monthly. Every issue is packed with news, discoveries, ideas and innovations to keep up-to-speed with the fast-moving world around us, all written in an easy-to-digest and entertaining style - <https://www.sciencefocus.com/>

**New Scientist** - Its website, app and print editions cover international news from a scientific standpoint, and ask the biggest-picture questions about life, the universe and what it means to be human - <https://www.newscientist.com/>

**Science News** - Science News offers readers a concise, current and comprehensive overview of the latest scientific research in all fields and applications of science and technology - <https://www.sciencenews.org/>

## Marketing

Here are some tips when marketing to Scientists:

- Posting in popular influencer organisations like *The Scientist* ([@TheScientistMagazine](#)) or *Popular Science* ([@PopSci](#)) will help to distribute marketing information as they have both influence and reach (The Scientist has over 2 million likes on Facebook and Popular Science has 3.5 million). Influencers have the ability to take your marketing content further, more quickly.
- Marketers need to craft marketing messages that emphasise the value that their products bring to the science.
- Scientists need to let others know about their achievements to increase their sphere of influence, so social media is one of the ways that scientists can do this. There has been an explosion of science blogs which range from “how to” guides like *Study Hacks* to news about science through New Scientist magazine.

- Scientists undertake regular reading so creating more content that is engaging and high quality will be beneficial. This content needs to be worth the scientists' attention, it needs to speak to the scientist's needs and address their pain points, not try to sell a product by pitching its features.

Information gathered from - (Hop, 2019)



We hope you have found this factsheet helpful.

Please see [www.cpdstandards.com](http://www.cpdstandards.com) for more information on our accreditation services or call **0203 745 6463** for further advice.