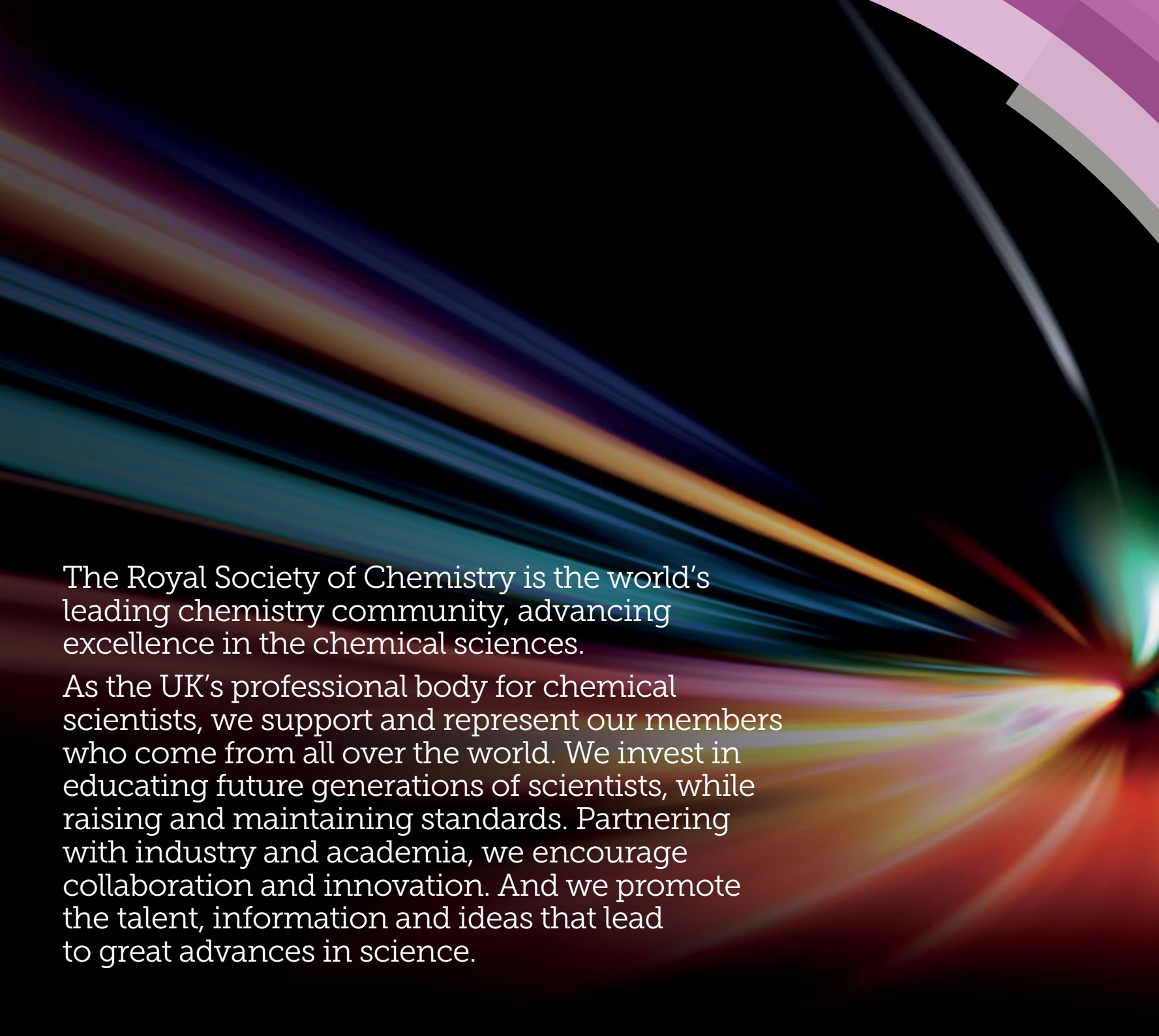




ROYAL SOCIETY
OF CHEMISTRY



Chartered status
Advance your career in science



The Royal Society of Chemistry is the world's leading chemistry community, advancing excellence in the chemical sciences.

As the UK's professional body for chemical scientists, we support and represent our members who come from all over the world. We invest in educating future generations of scientists, while raising and maintaining standards. Partnering with industry and academia, we encourage collaboration and innovation. And we promote the talent, information and ideas that lead to great advances in science.



What is chartered status?

Experience.

In-depth knowledge.

Expertise.

Integrity.

Professionalism.

Dedication.

Achieving chartered status demonstrates that you have all of these attributes and more.

At the Royal Society of Chemistry, we can help you achieve the professional qualifications that inspire confidence and trust in science and scientists.

Work with us to gain:

- Chartered Chemist (CChem) – awarded to experienced, practising chemists.
- Chartered Scientist (CSci) – awarded to a range of experienced, practising scientists.

Becoming chartered: what's in it for me?

In a crowded market, you need to do everything you can to stand out. Give yourself an advantage – gain the professional recognition you deserve – by becoming chartered.

Gaining CChem or CSci will prove that you have:

- built on your academic achievements and developed professional skills in a work environment
- gained in-depth knowledge and critical awareness of your chosen area of the sciences
- developed strong scientific skills and are committed to improving them
- made a critical contribution to the success of your organisation, business or institution
- shown personal and professional integrity
- committed to developing your career, as well as advancing excellence in the sciences.

For employers

When your workforce includes those with chartered status, it demonstrates that your organisation operates to the highest standards. Plus, it shows your commitment to career development and professionalism in your field.



“Working towards the qualification has helped me become a more well-rounded scientist.”

Hannah Alcock CChem MRSC is a Chemist at EDF Energy. She has recently achieved CChem through the company's accredited training scheme.

Why did you decide to become a Chartered Chemist?

My manager, who's now my mentor, encouraged me to begin working towards CChem. I was already interested in the qualification as my PhD and working background is in electrochemistry, a field where chartered status is highly regarded.

By having the training scheme accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry, EDF Energy clearly places value on employees getting chartered and the attributes it requires. My colleagues understand CChem and why it's important too, so I was happy to dedicate time to achieve it.

How does CChem benefit you and your company?

CChem focuses on transferable skills as well as technical ones. Working towards the qualification has helped me become a more well-rounded scientist. It has also taught me good practice for recording and maintaining my professional development.

People in different sectors recognise and understand CChem. Having employees that are chartered inspires confidence in EDF Energy – it demonstrates that the company employs fully competent scientists.

“Getting chartered demonstrates my drive to get ahead.”

Matt Cargill MRSC is a Scientist at Procter and Gamble. He is currently working towards CChem.

What have you found most challenging in working towards CChem?

Most of the attributes are closely aligned with the competencies expected of me at work, but the one that requires me to make a contribution to the chemical sciences outside of my direct work environment was more of a challenge.

To address this I've become a STEM ambassador, working in schools to inspire young people about the chemical sciences, and help coordinate visits to our site by local teachers. I also felt the need to develop my health and safety experience and I now lead the safety and environment programme for my department.

How do you think chartered status will help you develop your career?

A real plus point is that it helps me to keep in touch with the technical and academic side of things, which is important to me. I have a choice of routes with R&D – technical or management – and I'm not yet sure in which direction I'd like to go.

The experience I'm gaining with CChem helps me keep my options open and means I can make a more informed choice when the time comes. I also feel that getting chartered demonstrates my drive to get ahead.





What skills and experience do I need?

To be considered for chartered status, you will need to be a Member (MRSC) or Fellow (FRSC) of the Royal Society of Chemistry. You will need to have Masters level knowledge of an appropriate field, attained during a formal Masters degree or through on-the-job training in your chosen field.

You will also need to currently be working in a role that directly relates to your education and training.

The professional attributes needed to achieve CChem status are listed on page 7 or, visit <http://rsc.li/cchem>

For CSci status, you will need to show you have a combination of high-level scientific knowledge and experience that supports the competencies required. You can find these listed at <http://rsc.li/csci>

“I see it as a professional gold standard in career development because it shows that I have gained external validation of my competence.”

Abedawn Khalaf CChem MRSC is a Research Officer at Strathclyde University in Scotland. He gained chartered status in 1990.

How has being chartered contributed to your career?

Gaining chartered status was an important milestone for me. It has helped strengthen my motivation, as it is recognition that I have reached a higher stage in my career and colleagues have higher expectations of me. I see it as a professional gold standard in career development because it shows that I have gained external validation of my competence. As an independently assessed Chartered Chemist I feel I am given more responsibility and, because of it, I take pride in my profession and make a commitment to uphold best practice.

Would you encourage others to gain chartered status?

I would encourage all chemists who reach the criteria, have enthusiasm and dedication and aspire to achieve the accolade they deserve to apply for CChem. This award signifies excellence in the practice of the chemical sciences and will show that you are willing and able to make an important contribution to the success of the Royal Society of Chemistry as well as your employing organisation.



The professional attributes you need to become a Chartered Chemist

Applications for CChem status are rigorously assessed against all of these attributes.

A. Demonstrate and develop your knowledge and experience of chemistry as well as analytical and scientific skills.

- A.1 Make significant personal contributions to key tasks in your employment area and understand fully the objectives of your work as they relate to the chemical sciences.
- A.2 Demonstrate a high level of appropriate professional skills in the practice or advancement of the chemical sciences.
- A.3 Develop your chemistry and other professional skills as required for work undertaken and career development.
- A.4 Evaluate critically and draw conclusions from scientific and other data.

B. Exercise autonomy and professionalism in the workplace.

- B.1 Demonstrate reliability, integrity and respect for confidentiality on work related and personal matters.
- B.2 Plan, organise and implement work systematically and deliver results or improvements.
- B.3 Demonstrate the ability to work as part of a team.

C. Communicate effectively and demonstrate influence in your role.

- C.1 Demonstrate good communication skills by writing clear, concise and orderly documents and/or giving clear oral presentations.
- C.2 Discuss work convincingly and objectively with colleagues, customers and others, responding appropriately to alternative views.
- C.3 Exert effective influence.

D. Demonstrate an involvement in Environmental, Health and Safety matters and adhere to the relevant requirements relating to your role.

- E. Demonstrate an interest in broader developments in the chemical sciences and make a contribution to the profession outside your usual job remit.

CSci status

When you are awarded CChem status, you will also qualify for CSci status without having to provide any additional evidence. However, if you would like to apply to apply for CSci independently of CChem, you can find details of the criteria on our website at <http://rsc.li/csci>



Advance your career in science

How to apply for CChem

We run two CChem programmes:

- 1** A two-year Professional Development Programme (PDP) involving work-based training – this is for applicants with less than six years' professional experience.
- 2** A Direct Programme – this is for applicants with six or more years' experience.

Step 1

Please visit <http://rsc.li/cchem> and read the regulations and requirements notes.

Step 2

Complete and submit the eligibility form, along with your CV and registration fee.

Step 3

Start work on the PDP or begin gathering your portfolio of evidence for the Direct Programme. For both programmes you need to submit a final report form with your portfolio of supporting evidence.

Revalidation

You will need to revalidate CChem and/or CSci every year. You can do this by signing a declaration on your membership renewal form. We ask selected members to summarise the continuing professional development (CPD) activities they have undertaken in the past year, and may ask for evidence. Details of the revalidation process are on our website.

<http://rsc.li/chartered-status>

Supporting you through the programme

If you take the PDP route, you will have a mentor to support and guide you through the process. This is usually a line manager, or someone you work closely with. They will help you develop the skills and demonstrate the attributes you need to become chartered.

You should meet with your mentor regularly, so they can offer support and review your progress. They will help you assemble your portfolio of evidence, review this evidence and provide a written recommendation to us.

If you are applying for the Direct Programme, your mentor will work closely with you to gather and review your portfolio of evidence.

The CChem process

Member (MRSC) or Fellow (FRSC)?
M-level* Royal Society of Chemistry accredited degree or equivalent?
Employed in a chemistry-related job?

YES

Sufficient experience** applying M-level chemical science knowledge?

NO

Apply to the Professional Development Programme

Work with a mentor over a minimum of two years to meet the attributes
Submit progress reports and a portfolio of evidence

Application assessed by peer review

Successful applicants awarded CChem

YES

Apply to the Direct Programme

Discussion with a mentor to address the attributes
Submit a single report and portfolio of evidence drawn from two years' experience

Application assessed by peer review

Successful applicants awarded CChem

Option to directly register for CSci designation

* M-level refers to UK Masters degree level e.g. MChem, MSci or MSc

** See requirements for details – <http://rsc.li/cchem>

Further details of each stage of the PDP and Direct Programme process can be found in the requirements notes on our website www.rsc.org/cchem



“I wanted CChem status to demonstrate to customers and others in the community that my knowledge of chemistry is an integral part of my job.”

Andrew Osborne CChem MRSC is Business Manager for Ion Chromatography and Electrochemistry at Metrohm UK Ltd. He gained chartered status in 2012.

How has becoming chartered contributed to your career?

I have significant and varied experience in chemistry but have recently moved to a more management and sales focused role. I wanted CChem status to demonstrate to customers and others in the community that my knowledge of chemistry is still an integral part of my job.

I'm about to become a second supervisor for some PhD students. My CChem status is valued by the Principle Investigator of the research group as it shows I have a broad range of professional skills.

Would you encourage others to gain chartered status?

CChem shows I have a high level of competency and am well qualified for the role I perform. This reassures customers and clients, who see me as the face of chemistry for their products in the UK and Ireland. The more chemists that become chartered the better. The award makes it easier to identify where competence and professionalism are valued.

How to apply for CSci

To become CSci independently of CChem:

Step 1

Please visit <http://rsc.li/csci> and read the registration guidance notes.

Step 2

Complete and submit the registration form, along with your CV and registration fee.

Step 3

Once you have received confirmation that you are eligible, complete and submit your portfolio of supporting evidence together with the final report form.

CSci recognises scientists across a range of sectors, from food science to environmental waste management, health psychology to nuclear physics and mathematical modelling to chemical engineering.



Talk to us today

If you would like to find out more about chartered status and how to apply, our Professional Standards Specialist is here to help.

Email cchem@rsc.org

Phone +44 (0)1223 432141



Royal Society of Chemistry
www.rsc.org

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Thomas Graham House
Science Park, Milton Road
Cambridge CB4 0WF, UK

T +44 (0)1223 420066

Burlington House
Piccadilly, London
W1J 0BA, UK

T +44 (0)20 7437 8656

International Offices

São Paulo, Brazil
Beijing, China
Shanghai, China
Berlin, Germany

Bangalore, India
Tokyo, Japan
Philadelphia, USA
Washington, USA