


Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

LEVEL 3

LABORATORY TECHNICIAN STANDARD (LAB TECH)




csrgroup
scientific training

EDUCATE, INSPIRE, ACHIEVE, EVOLVE

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We have been delivering quality apprenticeship programmes for over 10 years and our vision is to bring education and industry together for a brighter, safer world and to inspire the next generation of scientists.

We map our technical inputs to industry requirements and provide the highest quality of education possible to all our learners, supporting and enabling all of them to achieve their maximum potential. We are proud of our success rates which are above national average.

We employ experts in their field to deliver our scientific training, all of our vocational skills coaches and lecturers have industrial experience and excellent teaching credentials.

We also have in-house experience of helping our customers to set up and run exemplary, award winning apprenticeship programmes.

WHO WE ARE

We are the country's leading dedicated scientific training provider and are proud to work with some of the most innovative scientific organisations in the UK.

CSR has been delivering quality laboratory based scientific Apprenticeships since it was founded in 2006.

We are listed on the APAR (Apprenticeship Provider and Assessment Register), regulated by the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education and monitored by Ofsted.

Some of our customers include:

- The National Physical Laboratory
- The University of Oxford
- The University of Cambridge
- Thermo Fisher Scientific
- BP
- P&G
- Labcorp
- NHS



“The quality of training I receive from CSR is of a high standard and the lecturers are friendly and approachable”

Bushra Nawaz, Laboratory Technician Apprentice at
The BioEscalator at the University of Oxford.

ABOUT THE LEVEL 3 LABORATORY TECHNICIAN APPRENTICESHIP

Laboratory Technicians work in a wide range of organisations, including pharmaceutical, testing, biotechnology, formulated products, nuclear, utilities, education and analytical science services.

Apprentices must be in employment for the duration of the Apprenticeship. The apprentice must have access to work which provides them with the opportunities to develop, practice and evidence the knowledge and skills to meet the standard.

A lab technician apprentice will learn:

- To work safely in a lab environment and to follow quality procedures.
- Regulatory requirements of the industry and lab.
- Technical skills to fulfil their role.
- How to produce, analyse and interpret data including the application of statistical techniques.
- To communicate scientific information effectively.
- To use appropriate scientific methods to identify the causes of problems and produce solutions

Apprentices could complete a Level 3 or 4 science qualification which is recognised for professional registration as RSciTech.

Example qualifications are:

- BTEC Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Applied Science
- BTEC Level 4 HNC in Applied Chemistry or Biology



Entry requirements:

Demonstrating a passion for Science is key. Typically, 5 GCSE's at grade C/4 or above in Maths, English and Science is desirable.



DELIVERY OF THE APPRENTICESHIP

We work with the employer to develop a training plan that best suits your organisation. We offer blended teaching and assessment in the work place with dedicated professional support to help the apprentice build their competence, confidence and skills.



Support for the Employer

If an employer is using their levy funds to train a new Laboratory Technician Apprentice, we can help with the recruitment process. We can assist with advertising, sifting and shortlisting candidates, with online or face to face interview panel support available on request.

We deliver “Apprentice Ready” training to all line managers, mentors & HR support involved with the apprentice to ensure we are all working together to achieve the best apprenticeship experience.

Support for the Apprentice

Apprentices will be supported by a Vocational Skills Coach and dedicated Safeguarding lead and Wellbeing Team.

Our programme support arrangements ensure that short, medium and long term objectives are monitored through a review process involving the Learner, Vocational Skills Coach and Employer.

We encourage the apprentices to become STEM Ambassadors and invite them to attend Outreach events to inspire the next generation of scientific apprentices.

We also offer enrichments days at various science venues across the UK.

Delivery is via supported distance learning online, with visits to Birmingham for the practical elements of the course.



OFF-THE-JOB TRAINING

Apprentices must have off-the-job training which is evidenced and recorded. There are a number of ways the requirements for OJT can be met:

- Day release for knowledge qualification
- Recording CPD activities
- Research and study period during working hours



DURATION OF APPRENTICESHIP

Typically it will take between 15 to 21 months to complete with an additional 3 months for end point assessment preparation.

CSR's Safeguarding team will monitor the welfare and safety of our learners throughout their programme. We also offer careers advice and guidance when they come to the end of their apprenticeship.

Gateway

The apprentice will be put in a Gateway to Completion before going through their Apprenticeship Assessment.

The Gateway consists of:

- Completion of Academic Qualification (if applicable)
- Completion of Vocational Competence Evaluation Log
- Employer and CSR agree the Apprentice is ready for their Apprenticeship Assessment which CSR will help to organise

Opportunity to Progress

Organisations that have successful Apprentices at Level 3 could use their levy funds to progress their employee onto a Level 5 (Foundation Year) Higher Apprenticeship as a Technician Scientist and eventually to a Level 6 (Degree) Laboratory Scientist.

PROFESSIONAL BODIES

The Royal Society of Chemistry, the Royal Society of Biology, the Institute of Physics and the Science Council are part of the Trailblazer development Group.

The Level 3 Laboratory Technician Standard is recognised by the relevant professional bodies at Registered Science Technician (RSciTech) level.

FUNDING

If an employer pays the apprentice levy, they can fund Laboratory Technician Apprentices through their DAS account. A maximum funding band of £21k has been set for this standard.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

We love to celebrate the success of our learners and organise annual graduation ceremonies for those that have successfully completed their programmes.

We also help the employer nominate those that go above and beyond for The National Apprenticeship Awards and BTEC Apprentice of the Year.



“NPL’s science apprentice programme makes me very proud. It is helping to ensure a healthy and diverse pipeline of talent for our future”

The National Physical Laboratory's CEO, Peter Thompson



STEM Suite, Room A, Level 1
Millennium Point, Curzon
Street, Birmingham, West
Midlands B4 7XG.

Tel: 0121 354 2442

E: helpdesk@csr-group.co.uk

www.csr-group.co.uk

