



GUIDANCE FOR CHARTERED SCIENTIST APPLICANTS WHO DO NOT HOLD A MASTERS LEVEL QUALIFICATION

Applicants who do not hold a masters level qualification are required to provide an extended competency report that demonstrates that they are working at masters level and explain how they have developed these competencies.

If you have a masters level qualification in a subject that is not at all related to your work, you will also need to complete the extended competency report.

If you do not have a masters level qualification but you hold a PhD then this extended report is not necessary, you simply need to provide the certificate for your PhD and include it in the qualification section of the application form.

The Chartered Scientist competencies themselves are at masters level and so the best way to tackle this is to write something in each of the competencies that shows how you have developed these competencies since completing your education.

You may wish to include:

- Formal training that you have received that allowed you to develop masters level knowledge and skills.
- Any activities or on the job experience that gave you an opportunity to develop masters level competence.
- Mentoring or on the job training from other people with masters level qualifications that helped you to develop the masters level competencies.

What are the masters level competencies?

These are the competencies that a masters qualification enables people to develop. You need to show that although you have not completed a masters level qualification you have developed these through the experiences and the training you have gained.

Master's degrees are awarded to individuals who have demonstrated:

- a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of their academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice
- a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship
- originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline
- conceptual understanding that enables you:
 - to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline
 - to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.

Typically, holders of the qualification will be able to:

- deal with complex 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
- demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level
- continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

And holders will have the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring:

- the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility
- decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations
- the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.