ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY

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1. WHAT IS A CHARTERED ENVIRONMENTALIST (CEnv)?

Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) is a professional award that recognises the specialist knowledge of Royal Society of Chemistry members whose work contributes to mitigating and solving environmental challenges.

Chartered Environmentalists come from a wide range of disciplines and sectors, and you don't have to be a practising scientist to apply. The award is relevant to anyone who meets the required professional competencies set out by the Society for the Environment.

By becoming a Chartered Environmentalist, you will:

• receive professional recognition for your knowledge of sustainability principles in the management of the environment

• be entitled to use the designatory letters CEnv after your name

• elevate your credibility and reputation in your field

• be included in the Society for the Environment's CEnv register

• build your network by joining a global community of environment professionals

• demonstrate personal and professional integrity

2. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to apply for CEnv through the Royal Society of Chemistry, you must meet the following criteria:

• Be MRSC or FRSC

• Hold a Master's level qualification, or be able to demonstrate an equivalent level of knowledge gained through experience (refer to section 4.2)

• Have at least four years' relevant experience at or above Master's level with key responsibilities relating to the environment and/or sustainability

• Be able to demonstrate that you meet the CEnv competencies

If you do not hold a Master's level qualification and you have not previously been awarded CChem or CSci status, you will need to show us how you have achieved the required knowledge and skills by completing an equivalence report form.

If you think this may apply to you, please email a member of our team at cenv@rsc.org before completing your application.

3. EQUIVALENCY

Section 1: Who needs to complete an equivalence report?

4. THE APPLICATION PROCESS

STEP 1

First, become a member of the RSC. Visit rsc.li/join

STEP 2

Identify two appropriate supporters and ask them if they would be happy to support your application. Your first supporter should be your line manager or a senior colleague who is familiar with your work. Where possible, your second supporter should be someone from a different organisation.

STEP 3

Check your eligibility against the criteria listed in section 2.

STEP 4

Work with your supporter to complete the application form. Provide an example against each competency that demonstrates how you meet the criteria. Make sure you sign the form (electronic signatures are accepted), and tick the declaration.

The form is available to download at https://www.rsc.org/careers/cpd/practising-scientists/

STEP 5

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Email the completed form, your CV and evidence of your relevant qualification(s) to the team at cenv@rsc.org.
A member of the team will make an initial review of your application, and will work with you to make sure it is ready to go out for assessment.

STEP 6

Your application will be reviewed by two assessors who are members of the Royal Society of Chemistry (MRSC or FRSC) and hold CEnv status. Depending on the availability of the assessors, this can take up to eight weeks.

The assessors may request that you provide additional information to clarify your involvement in a particular project or activity outlined in your application. If this request is made, it will be communicated to you through the RSC.

STEP 7

The key thing is that the assessors need to see specific examples from your work and understand your personal level of responsibility and impact in your workplace. For each competency, you should focus on describing just one example and, as a rough guide, you should aim for somewhere between 250 and 500 words per competency example. Examples should ideally be from your current job, and no more than two years old.

In the following table is an example answer that could have been given in a CEnv application based on the SHARE format. We've described how it might have been strengthened to give assessors an accurate impression of how the applicant is working at the required competency level. This increases the chances of the application being successful.

Candidates may wish to provide primary evidence along with a summary statement instead of a reflective SHARE-based answer for a specific competency. This may be accepted, but please contact the CEnv team to confirm the evidence is appropriate before submitting. Primary evidence may be discussed at the Professional Review Interview.

If you have any questions about your application, please contact cenv@rsc.org

Competency D1 from CEnv

7. CONDUCT WITHIN AN APPLICATION

The content of an application for professional registration should be the work of the applicant and we expect all applicants to adhere to our Code of Conduct.

The RSC acknowledges that Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools may appropriately and ethically be employed as aids in composing or enhancing an application. Acceptable uses of AI include:

• translation

• checking and correcting spelling

• checking and correcting grammar

• checking the readability of an application

• generating suggestions for alternative words (online thesaurus)

Applicants bear responsibility for the originality, validity, and integrity of the content of their application, even when employing AI tools for certain elements. Unethical use of AI (for example, generating generic or untrue evidence statements that don't relate to the applicant's personal experiences) or plagiarism may result in applications being rejected.

Applicants who use AI tools in the writing of an application, other than for the acceptable uses outlined above, must declare this when they submit their application. Further information on the use of AI can be found in our Guide to Ethics.

8. COMPETENCY EXAMPLES

The examples below will help you identify potential topics for you to discuss in your application form. They are designed to serve as inspiration rather than a complete answer. To make sure that you provide sufficient detail, write your answers for each competency (around 250-500 words) in the SHARE format.

Chartered Environmentalists work in many different settings. Here, we have provided examples of some industries and fields that previous applicants have been involved in (it is not an exhaustive list). However, many of these examples can apply to more than one sector, so you might find it helpful to look over them all.

Competency and description	Industry/field			
	Nuclear	Industrial	Academic	Consultancy
A1: Understand the sustainability principles applicable to the management of the environment.				
A2: Apply environmental knowledge and principles in pursuit of sustainable environmental management.	• The assessment of reactor designs and their outcomes • Management of /working with regulators and regulatory bodies • The investigation and use of modelling and its implications on range of stakeholders	• Detail y our involvement in disposal/recycling procedure and practices • Detail y our approaches of how you respond to accidents	• Discus sion of your specific research • The application of analytical techniques and results obtained • Your work with external organisations (e.g. conservation groups), the research conducted and its result	• How you implement risk assessments • Detail y our involvement with site investigations, evaluation techniques, remediation procedures • Describe ho w you ensure projects comply with any regulations • Discus s any modelling you conduct and its impact
A3: Identify, analyse and anticipate the impact of problems and environmental trends to develop practical sustainable solutions.	• The use and evaluation of environmental models relating to contamination • Discussion of the wider environmental impacts of the process/techniques used	• Discus s any analytical procedures you undertake • Discus s any changes in waste processing/ management that you have encountered • Discus s any environmentally focused incident response • Detail c ompliance with legislation	• Your involvement in local issues that link to your area of research • Your work with the local community • Discussion of collaborations with other universities/companies • Detailing e xternal focused projects including any subsequent publications	• Detail an en vironmental project you conducted for a client and how they implemented it • Discus sion of a research paper/project, and the journey/process behind it • Discus sion around any building and/or development projects
B1: Promote behavioural and cultural change by influencing others to secure environmental improvements that go beyond statutory requirements.	• Leading a team on a project • Conducting workshops • Enc ourage environmental improvements relating to a range of contaminations topics	• Detail ho w you encourage changes without regulatory requirements • Detail ho w you work/ encourage cooperation with the wider teams • Detail ho w you interact and work with clients	• Your involvement in the local issues that link to your research area • Your work and its impact with the local community • How you inspire students • Your work and influence with stakeholders	• Deliv ering internal or external presentations • Designing and delivering tr aining courses • Detailing ho w you work with a client • Discus s any mentoring you conduct with students or new colleagues • Discus s your attendance and involvement with any committees/ organisations
B2: Develop and maintain a strategic environmental approach.	• Implementation of			

Competency				

Competency and description	Industry/field			
	Nuclear	Industrial	Academic	Consultancy
D3: Understand, demonstrate and advocate compliance with relevant codes of conduct and practice.	• The use of BA T and as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP), as well as encouraging their use • Your kno wledge and understanding of short-term benefit vs long-term costs in projects • Discussion of inher ent ethical issues in the nuclear industry	• Discuss an y conflict between members of different teams • Demonstr ate compliance with institutional requirements and how they might impact your work	• Demonstr ate how you reflect on your own practice/methods • Demonstr ate compliance with institutional requirements and how they might impact your work	• Discuss y our understanding and implementation of any applicable legalisation unders

10. MAINTAINING CEnv STATUS

Everyone who holds CEnv status commits to continuous professional development (CPD) to maintain their registered status – it's a mandatory requirement.

CPD enables you to take charge of your career. By keeping track of your professional development, you can identify gaps in your knowledge and opportunities to learn new skills. And in a fast-changing world, keeping your skills up to date is essential. To make this easier, we offer our members a free CPD recording tool.

The fee to maintain CEnv is paid annually along with your membership renewal fees.

Revalidation
A key requirement for holding chartered status is that you must demonstrate your commitment to continually maintaining and updating your professional expertise and competence. After being awarded CEnv, you will be expected to revalidate your status annually by signing a declaration on your membership renewal form to confirm that you are maintaining accurate records of your CPD activities.

Every year, a sample of CEnv registrants will be asked to submit a CPD return, outlining the relevant learning activities from the past year they have conducted and the impact these have had on their own professional practice, as well as the users of their work.

Your CPD should be a mixture of learning and development activities with relevance to sustainability and the environment. Include activities in at least three (or, in exceptional circumstances, two) of the following categories:

1. Work-based learning (supervising staff/students, reflective practice)
2. Professional activity (involvement in a professional body, mentoring)
3. Formal/educational (attending training courses, writing articles/papers)
4. Self-directed learning (reading journals or other relevant material)
5. Other (voluntary work, public service)

If you would like further advice, please email cenv@rsc.org