

General Overview

- ✓ Typical on-programme learning: 60 months
- ✓ EPA duration: 6 months
- ✓ Maximum funding: £27,000
- ✓ Level 6



A laboratory scientist applies specialist knowledge and broad scientific understanding to carry out a range of technical and scientific activities in their specialist discipline: Chemical Science, Life Sciences, Research & Development, and Analytical.

They analyse, interpret and evaluate relevant scientific information, concepts and ideas and use these to develop subsequent experiments or investigations and to propose solutions to problems. They identify areas of business improvement and propose innovative scientific ideas. They perform practical, established and novel laboratory procedures using standard and specialist laboratory equipment and instrumentation. Ensuring uniformity, consistency, reliability, reproducibility, quality, and integrity of scientific tests underpins their work and the working environment. In all contexts working safely and ethically is paramount.

Laboratory scientists work in a wide range of organisations, including chemical, pharmaceutical, biotechnology, formulated products, consumer products, nuclear and analytical services. They work autonomously on defined projects under the supervision of a senior scientist and as part of a wider scientific team, which may include laboratory technologist and laboratory technicians. They deliver scientific value to their organisation, whilst contributing to the development of others.

Entry Requirements

Whilst any entry requirements will be a matter for individual employers, typically, candidates will have 5 GCSE's at grade C or above, including English, maths and a science subject and hold relevant level 3 qualifications providing the appropriate number of UCAS points for entry to a level 6 Higher Education programme. Other relevant or prior experience may also be considered as an alternative.

On-Programme Competence Evaluation

The apprentice will complete on and off-the-job training, developing their knowledge, skills & behaviours as stipulated within the apprenticeship standard.

Gateway Requirements

The employer, supported by the training provider must confirm that the apprentice is ready for EPA, before the EPA process can begin.

The employer, supported by the training provider must sign a declaration to agree the apprentice has met the required criteria as set out in the Laboratory Scientist standard.

As part of the SIAS EPA service, we will check that all gateway evidence has been met before we begin the process of EPA.

End Point Assessment (EPA)

The assessment plan defines the following methods of assessment for the Laboratory Scientist standard.

1

Workplace Synoptic
Project Primary
Journal Article &
Presentation with
Questioning

- The apprentice is required to submit a scientific paper based on the workplace synoptic project to the EPA panel via the End Point Assessor by the end of month 2 of the EPA period. The article must contain a maximum 3000 words. The article will be reviewed by the End Point Assessor. The independent assessor may seek who will decide if the article meets the relevant criteria before the presentation of the primary journal article to EPA panel can be undertaken.
- The presentation will be made to an assessment panel followed by questioning.
- Duration: The presentation will typically last 20-30 minutes and the discussion 45-60 minutes; together they must be no longer than 90 minutes.

2

Vocational
Competence
Discussion

- Apprentices will take part in a vocational competence discussion with an End Point Assessor. The purpose is to determine the extent to which the apprentice understands the requirements of their role as defined by the standard.
- The End Point Assessor must ask a minimum of 8 questions (1 question per theme).
- Duration: 2 hours and 15 minutes.



Assessment Marking & Grading & Grading

Results for each individual assessment method will be available within 15 working days from the assessment date.

The SIAS end-point assessor, will combine the results of each individual assessment method and provide an overall assessment grade of Fail, Pass or Distinction.



Apprenticeship Certification

Your apprentice will receive a Certificate of Apprenticeship on successful completion of all individual assessment methods.



Guidance & Support

SIAS provide a range of resources which offer EPA guidance and support for the apprentice, the employer, and the college/training provider.

We aim help employers and colleges/training providers to support the on-going competence evaluation of the apprentices' knowledge, skills, and behaviour to ensure that your apprentice is confident for their EPA. All of our resources are comprehensively mapped to this apprenticeship standard.