Guidance document for training plans for the Clinical Scientist Guided Training Scheme

Your training plan will be submitted along with your application to the Clinical Scientist Guided Training Scheme. Your training plan will be tailored to the assessing body you intend to apply to on completion of your training: ACS Route 2 or AHCS STP Equivalence. It is designed to be a working document and will continue to be used as the basis of your discussions with your External Advisor and to guide your training. It is expected that your training plan will be completed with support and supervision from the HCPC registered Clinical Scientist who has agreed to supervise you whilst on the Training Scheme.

The Training Plan template is split into two sections: 1. Competency/ Good Scientific Practice Standards (GSP) table and 2. Training Timeline.

1.   Competency/GSP Standards Table

We recommend completing a gap analysis using the competencies or GSP Standards which you will be required to meet as part of your application. Consider and make a note of where your previous experience, education and any relevant job roles have already given you the required competencies. Under 'Proposed Training', illustrate how you intend to fill in any gaps in your training to fully meet the requirements. It is worthwhile remembering that a piece of evidence may meet more than one of the required competencies but ensure that there is enough variety and breadth in the evidence which you present.

2.   Training Timeline

Using the training you have proposed in the above tables, outline the different activities you will need to complete and set a provisional deadline for this. This will help you to make continual progress on your training plan and towards being prepared for assessment. When proposing deadlines, remember to factor in any challenges you may encounter. These could be personal, such as taking annual leave, as well as any known challenges at work. The timeline is not final and should be modified with ongoing discussions with your supervisor and External Advisor.

Training Plans for ACS 'Route 2'

As part of your application to the ACS, you will be assessed against the Generic Competencies which relate to the Standards of Proficiency set by the HCPC. Additional guidance for candidates on portfolio content can be found within the Full Document Set on their website:
Application Documents – Association of Clinical Scientists (assclinsci.org)

Training Plans for AHCS STP Equivalence

As part of your application to the AHCS, you will be assessed against the standards set out in AHCS Good Scientific Practice 2021 and the relevant accredited STP curriculum. When completing your training plan, consider the learning outcomes from the relevant STP curriculum and demonstrate how you have or intend to meet them. The AHCS Applicants Guide for STP Equivalence contains an appendix with additional guidance on what kinds of evidence you can submit:
Equivalence Guidance - The Academy For Healthcare Science (ahcs.ac.uk)

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When completing your Training Plan, and subsequent portfolios, ensure that you do not compromise patient confidentiality or the confidentiality of a third party, and ensure you are compliant with GDPR. Please see IPEM's Code of Conduct Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedure – IPEM and the HCPC Standards for further information: Standards | (hcpc–uk.org).

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