

# An applicant's guide to becoming a Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv)

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## 1.



## 2.

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](mailto:cenv@rsc.org) before completing your application.

**3.**

### **Section 1: Who needs to complete an equivalence report?**

If you do not hold a Master's level qualification and have not previously been awarded CChem or CEnv status, you may also be asked to provide additional information in the form of an equivalence report. Guidance for completing this report can be found below.

Please contact us before completing your application form if you think this may apply to you.

### **Section 2: Completing the equivalence report**

The application process for becoming a Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) requires Master's level thinking, demonstrated either through a relevant Master's degree or through the submission of written work deemed to be of an equivalent level by the registration assessors. If you do not hold a Master's degree (or equivalent), you will need to show us how you have achieved the required knowledge and skills by completing an

To support your equivalence form, it may be useful to submit additional evidence. If you do so, please refer to it in your equivalence form and explain how it demonstrates that you meet the QAA descriptors. Any evidence provided should be supplementary to your report and all appropriate information must be discussed in the report.

We have provided this list of potential sources of evidence, but it is not exhaustive and any evidence you feel is appropriate can be provided.

- A CPD report
- Details of any relevant short courses undertaken
- Details of any workshops, internal and/or external training sessions, events, conferences
- Details of reading you have undertaken to help you develop or update your knowledge. This can be theoretical or practical. For example, in learning to use a new piece of equipment, methods, standards or regulatory requirements, you may have had to undertake some research to help you
- Any documents, reports, policies, procedures, instruction manuals, technical reports, surveys etc you have written
- Scientific reports, publications, books, book chapters or leaflets that you have written and published
- Complex designs and relevant calculations
- Technical specifications
- Teaching/training for others that you have delivered; you may want to include evidence in the form of teaching syllabuses, your lecture notes, presentation material and examination papers you have produced
- Log books, work diaries etc if these are relevant
- Actual job descriptions, past and present
- Annual performance reviews, summaries etc
- Any professional awards, recognition received, along with the criteria used in awarding these
- Sometimes an activity may not have produced a tangible outcome, such as a report or publication, but may still have had a significant impact on your or others' practice. In this case, you may be able to obtain and provide a signed statement from your line manager giving a detailed explanation as to your activities and the value or impact they have had

## 4.

### STEP 1

First, become a member of the RSC. Visit [rsc.li/join](https://www.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

Email the completed form, your CV and evidence of your relevant qualification(s) to the team at [cenv@rsc.org](mailto: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

If your written application is approved by the assessors, a Professional Review Interview (PRI) will be arranged at a mutually convenient time. Depending on availability, this is usually one to two months after you receive your confirmation email.

### STEP 8

Successful applicants will receive an official letter and certificate of award, and may begin using the designatory letters CEnv.

If your application is not successful, you will be provided with feedback and suggestions on areas for development, and you will be invited to resubmit an application after a period of time as recommended by the assessors. If you feel that the decision has not been made fairly, you are entitled to appeal. Details of the appeals process are available on request.

**If you are a current applicant, or would like more information or support, please contact us at [cenv@rsc.org](mailto:cenv@rsc.org)**

## 5.



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](mailto:cenv@rsc.org)

**Competency D1 from CEnv**

## 7.

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
<b>A1:</b> Understand the sustainability principles applicable to the management of the environment.	<i>Provide a summary of your environmental and sustainability knowledge and experience using examples from your whole career.</i>			
<b>A2:</b> Apply environmental knowledge and principles in pursuit of sustainable environmental management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The assessment of reactor designs and their outcomes</li> <li>Management of/working with regulators and regulatory bodies</li> <li>The investigation and use of modelling and its implications on range of stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detail your involvement in disposal/recycling procedure and practices</li> <li>Detail your approaches of how you respond to accidents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion of your specific research</li> <li>The application of analytical techniques and results obtained</li> <li>Your work with external organisations (e.g. conservation groups), the research conducted and its result</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How you implement risk assessments</li> <li>Detail your involvement with site investigations, evaluation techniques, remediation procedures</li> <li>Describe how you ensure projects comply with any regulations</li> <li>Discuss any modelling you conduct and its impact</li> </ul>
<b>A3:</b> Identify, analyse and anticipate the impact of problems and environmental trends to develop practical sustainable solutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The use and evaluation</li> </ul>			









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 CPD activities they have conducted and the impact these have had on their own professional practice, as well as the users of their work.

