

Laboratory Technician

Level: 3
Duration: 27 months

Laboratory Technicians carry out routine and specialised scientific testing, analysis, and experiments to support research, quality control, and manufacturing processes.



Apprenticeship overview

This apprenticeship provides a solid grounding in laboratory science. You will learn to operate complex instrumentation, handle chemicals and biological materials safely, and process scientific data accurately while following strict regulatory protocols.

Core skills, knowledge and behaviours you will learn

- Laboratory safety and compliance with COSHH regulations
- Calibration, maintenance, and operation of scientific equipment
- Data analysis, statistical processing, and digital recording
- Writing technical summaries and laboratory reports
- Quality control procedures and continuous improvement (e.g., ISO standards)
- Fundamental concepts in chemistry, biology, or physics (depending on sector)

Where you might work

- Pharmaceutical and biotech laboratories
- Chemical and materials manufacturing plants
- Environmental testing and water treatment laboratories
- Forensic science labs
- University and research institute laboratories

Typical job roles

- Laboratory Technician
- Quality Control (QC) Technician
- Analytical Technician
- Research and Development (R&D) Support Technician

Good to know

Meticulous attention to detail is non-negotiable; small contamination or tracking errors can invalidate weeks of scientific testing

You will spend much of your day wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) such as lab coats, gloves, and safety goggles

This standard opens the door to achieving Registered Science Technician (RSciTech) status