

Certificate of Equivalence – validation of past qualifications, training and experience

The **AHCS Certificate of Equivalence** is for individuals already working in Healthcare Science in the UK, EU or overseas who now wish to register as a Clinical Scientist or Healthcare Science Practitioner.

Entry to and progression through the healthcare science career framework is possible without the need for you to repeat training or experience that you already possess.

Achieving the AHCS Certificate of Equivalence shows that your previous training, qualifications and experience meet the learning outcomes of the relevant specialist *Modernising Scientific Careers* programme and means you are eligible to apply for registration.

Joining a register demonstrates your commitment to high standards of technical competency, patient safety, quality and professional and personal behaviour. It offers a degree of assurance to your employers, your colleagues, service users and your patients.

About the Academy for Healthcare Science (AHCS)

We are the uniting voice of the diverse UK Healthcare Science workforce, bringing together a wide range of scientific disciplines in healthcare. Our aim is to ensure that Healthcare Science is recognised and respected as a key clinical profession in the health and care system.

The Academy is commissioned by Health Education England to deliver and support a robust regulatory framework for the Healthcare Science workforce.

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Frequently Asked Questions

What is Equivalence?

Equivalence - for education, training, qualifications and experience - is said to exist when the outcomes of two processes are directly comparable even though the paths to achieving them are different.

What is the Certificate of Equivalence?

The Certificate of Equivalence is an approved award that leads to eligibility to apply to the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) for Registration as a Clinical Scientist or the Academy's register for Healthcare Science Practitioners.

How much does it cost?

£350 for STP equivalence and £50 for PTP equivalence.

What are the benefits for me?

This is a route to **registration** and professional recognition – your colleagues, employers and patients will be reassured of your commitment and capability.

Increased **career progression** opportunities – some employers will require registration as a condition of employment.

Competitive edge – registration is a desirable addition to your CV.

How do I apply?

Full details of the Equivalence process can be found on our homepage, under the 'Equivalence' tab. You can begin your Application for STP and PTP Equivalence online at:

<http://www.ahcs.ac.uk/equivalence/apply-for-equivalence/>

