



Competencies for Food Graduate Careers

NPD*, Development or Process roles

2nd Edition
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Focussed on development of new products (NPD), existing ones (EPD) or improvement of manufacturing processes. Most are a combination of 2 or more of these. Can be employed in small to large businesses across the sector, so the scope of the role will change accordingly. In manufacturing companies, some require working with customers. A large variety of role titles, responsibilities and salaries but a classic graduate entry point.

*NPD = New Product Development



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Typical Role Names

NPD Technologist	Development Technologist
Process Technologist	Product Developer
NPD Process Technologist	
Process Development Technologist	

There are standards for the technical content of UK Food Sciences degrees; but there are more aspects you can develop to support success in the workplace. Industry have outlined what they think may be the most valuable additional skills, knowledge and behaviours for 14 typical graduate roles & this is one of them.

So, what is desirable for a NPD, Development or Process role?

Desirable Elements for this Role

Adaptability	Open-Minded
Collaboration	Passion for Subject
Commercial Awareness	Questioning Approach
Food Industry Experience	Teamworking
Initiative	Working Under Pressure
Innovation	

This material has been developed with industry involvement to support graduates, employers and degree educators. <https://www.ifst.org/resources/competencies-food-graduate-careers>

Find out about more technical graduate roles in the food industry & what may be best suited to you in developing your career with our partners: