Competencies for Food Graduate Careers

Specifications or Quality Systems Technologist

3rd Edition
April 2024

The role will be largely desk-based and not in the factory. May work on specifications with specific customers or raw materials. Could be working on codes of practice or quality systems for the factory. The roles could be in food manufacturing sites, technical centres, in food service or at a retailer. Some advertised roles may be not graduate entry (so don't require a suitable degree qualification). Explore requirements & detail of each advertisement to find what suits you.

Typical Role Names

Specifications Technologist | Quality Systems Technologist |
Vendor Assurance Technologist | Technical Officer | Food Technologist

Check Out Our Case Studies

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.

Desirable Elements for this Role

Application of IT
Collaboration
Confidence
Digital Capability
 English Proficiency
Handling Data

Personal Responsibility
Planning and Organising
Reliability
Thoroughness and Attention to Detail
Values and Credibility
Written Communication

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:

University of Nottingham — UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA
University of Reading
Sheffield Hallam University
Institute of Food Science + Technology — ifst