



Professional Development Day

14 March 2023

The following information is provided to help you attend the Professional Development Day or encourage attendance among your team. A full programme and further information will be sent out in due course.

Venue

Institute of Physics (IOP), Caledonian Road, London, N1 9BU

The Institute of Physics is located just a few minutes' walk from Kings Cross and St Pancras stations and less than 10 minutes' walk from London Euston. [Directions](#)

A handful of sessions will be live-streamed or recorded. At the time of producing this document, it is not known which sessions these will be.

Accessibility

The Institute of Physics recognises the diverse range of people's needs and have considered these in their [Accessibility Guide](#).

The Science Council also understands that not all needs are physical or visible and is here to support all to benefit from the day. If you have needs not considered elsewhere, please contact Liz on l.gill@sciencecouncil.org to tell us how we can help you.

Support from your employer

Faced with a shifting economic landscape and increasingly demanding labour market, today's STEM leaders are looking for ways to recruit, retain and retrain their workforce. It is more important than ever for employers to create an Employee Experience that supports employee growth, connects people together and empowers people to be their best.

Despite this, to get support for CPD, you may need to convince your employer of the benefits. The following points may be useful in your approach:

- Your employer can **save training costs** by allowing time off for CPD: Time off for relevant training may save the organisation having to provide training itself.
- Supporting CPD can **increase motivation and retention**: Committed staff are likely to work harder and stay longer.
- Supporting CPD can **improve job performance**: In a knowledge society, employees must constantly update their skills and increase their knowledge to equip them to perform their roles better.
- CPD can be **integrated into performance management** and other HR processes: It can become a focal point for management discussions. Through appraisals, individuals can tie their development to skills that will further the organisation's objectives.



- Strong employer **support for CPD tends to aid recruitment**: where those that invest in CPD are seen as great for career progression.

Finance

The ticket price £20 has been kept purposefully low to encourage registrants at all career stages to be able to attend. (Early Bird tickets £15)

The ticket price may not be the only cost of attending. Travel costs are likely to be relevant too, and depending on your location, you may need overnight accommodation to enable you to attend the whole day.

Your employer may be willing to help with this cost. Before you approach them, think about why you should receive funding to support you in your CPD journey.

- **Does the Professional Development Day content tie in with targets identified in your annual appraisal plan?** If yes, the day likely aligns with your role and organisation's strategies and you can outline this to your team lead.
- **Does the Professional Development Day content address a specific gap in your knowledge and skills portfolio?** If so, explain to your team lead what impact your attendance will have. This may include impacts to other stakeholders too (colleagues, students, researchers, collaborators, etc).

Bursary scheme

We have been fortunate to secure a budget for a Bursary Scheme to help a handful of people to attend who would otherwise be unable to join us due to financial reasons or caring responsibilities. The bursary pot is limited, so we may not be able to support all applications. Each bursary application will be considered on an individual case-by-case basis.

Criteria:

- Employed in the science field
- Registered as an RSciTech, RSci, CSci or CSciTeach
- Unable to obtain financial support from your employer
- Maximum travel costs and/or accommodation costs £150
- Maximum caring responsibility – alternative provision costs £150

How to apply

In the first instance, email Liz L.gill@sciencecouncil.org

Include the following details: name, address, contact details, register belonged to, employer name.

- Tell us why you would like to attend and how it would benefit you (50-100 words)
- Tell us how the bursary would enable you to attend or about the problem that would prevent you from attending (50-100 words)

If we require further information to make a decision, we will let you know. Receipts will be required.