



CREST assessor job description

About the role

We want you, highly-engaged and knowledgeable members of the science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) community, to help support, grow and diversify students who are interested and involved in science.

You will be assessing CREST Award projects from 14 to 19-year-old students, providing constructive feedback and encouragement. In doing so, you will be helping to develop students' interest and attitudes towards science.

“My STEM Club were assessed [for their Award] and had so much pride when they got it! The assessor was impressed at the skills they had learned in communication and facing challenges. The whole experience is so valuable!”

Chris Coheeny, Tapton School

You will be paid per assessment completed, £4 per Silver assessment and £6 per Gold assessment. The option to carry out this role on a voluntary basis is also available.

You will be assessing between three and five hours per month. This equates to assessing up to ten Silver Awards, or six Gold Awards per month or a combination thereof.

About CREST Awards

The CREST Awards scheme is the British Science Association's flagship programme for young people, providing science enrichment activities to inspire and engage 5 to 19-year olds. It is the only nationally recognised accreditation scheme for project work in STEM subjects.

The scheme consists of six award levels,

- Star – for 5 to 9-year-old students
- SuperStar – for 9 to 11-year-old students
- Discovery – for 11 to 14-year-old students
- Bronze – for 11 to 14-year-old students, requires 10+ hours of work, and has more of a project focus than Discovery
- Silver – for 14 to 16-year-old students and requires 30+ hours of work
- Gold – for 16+ year old students and requires 70+ hours of work

Bronze to Gold level projects are assessed against the [CREST assessment criteria](#).

However, only Silver and Gold projects are assessed by external Assessors.

Key responsibilities

You will assess Silver and Gold Award projects within two weeks of them being assigned, using the online system. Projects will be assessed against the CREST Assessment Criteria, and must meet at least 11 of the 15 criteria to pass.

You will provide written, constructive feedback to students when they have not met a criterion. You can also provide feedback on particularly impressive aspects of a project and on the project as a whole.

When a Silver Award project is particularly impressive, you can recommend that it be awarded a Gold award (assuming 11 of the 15 criteria have been met).

If a project does not meet 11 of the 15 criteria, then you will use your judgment to either offer an award one level lower, or provide the opportunity to resubmit the award.

Supporting you with assessing projects

The BSA will support you with assessing projects. This support includes free training on how to assess CREST Awards and use the assessment platform.

BSA staff members are available to provide support and answer your questions regarding assessing projects and using the online platform. They will also run regular webinars for assessors, the subject and frequency of which are dependent on the level of demand.

There will also be opportunities to network with other Assessors, BSA staff and CREST Supporters at certain events.

Person specification

Essential

- An interest in engaging young people in STEM.
- Expertise in one or more of the following subjects:
 - Biology
 - Chemistry
 - Physics
 - Maths
 - Engineering
 - Psychology
 - Sociology
 - Economics
 - ICT/Computer science
 - Design and Technology
 - Electronics
 - Environmental Science
 - Food technology
 - Drama
 - English
 - Geography
 - History
 - Music
 - Textiles
- A relevant bachelor's degree or three plus years in a STEM role

Desirable

- Knowledge of the Key Stage 4 and 5 (or equivalent) STEM curricula
- Experience of assessing STEM projects
- Experience of providing feedback to young people
- Experience of working with young people

If you would like to become a CREST assessor, please fill out [this survey](#) with your skills and experience.

Alternatively, if have any questions regarding the role, or would like to discuss the role further, please email crest@britishscienceassociation.org