



# **NIGERIAN COUNCIL OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (NICFoST)**

## **MANUAL FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION OF FOOD SCIENTISTS AND TECHNOLOGISTS IN NIGERIA**

**FEBRUARY 2022**

**NICFoST TD002**

## **ABOUT NiCFoST**

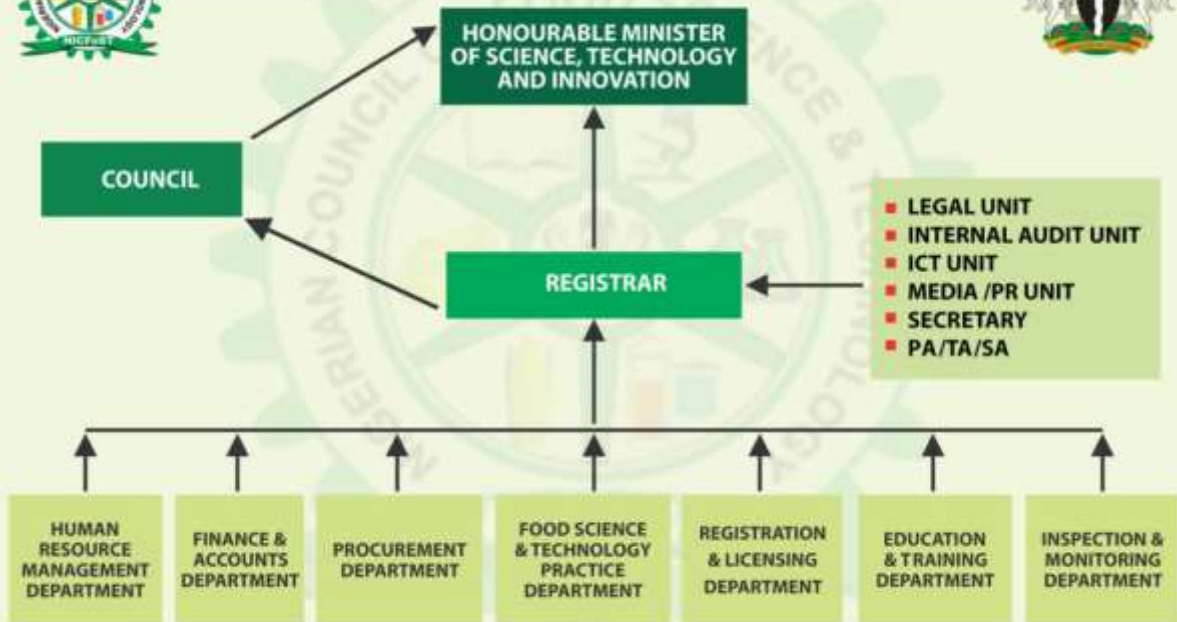
The Nigerian Council of Food Science and Technology (NiCFoST) was established by the NiCFoST (Establishment) Act, 2019.

The Council is domiciled in the Federal Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation (FMSTI) to regulate the practice and profession of Food Science and Technology in Nigeria.

Pursuant to this, the Council is responsible for the development of curriculum of Food Science and Technology programmes and its variant Disciplines (Food Technology, Food Science, Food Science & Nutrition, Food Science and Biotechnology, Brewing Science & Technology, Brewing & Beverage Technology etc.) in the tertiary institutions and for accreditation of such programmes in partnership with National Universities Commission (for Universities) and National Board for Technical Education (for Polytechnics and Monotechnics).

It shall also grant practice licence to qualified Food Scientists and Technologists and approve the business locations for their practice.

# ORGANOGRAM OF THE NIGERIAN COUNCIL OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (NiCFoST)



# **NIGERIAN COUNCIL OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (NiCFoST)**

## **MANDATE**

To regulate the Practice and Profession of Food Science and Technology in Nigeria.

## **OUR VISION**

Efficient professional management of the various segments of the Nigerian Food Value Chains and Supply Systems following current best scientific practices for food security.

## **OUR MISSION**

To develop and promote the highest standards in the training and practice of Food Science and Technology profession in Nigeria.



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## **Background**

The Nigerian Council of Food Science and Technology (NiCFoST) was established by NiCFoST (Establishment) Act, 2019. The Council is domiciled in the Federal Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation (FMSTI) to regulate the practice and profession of Food Science and Technology in Nigeria. Pursuant to this, the Council is responsible for the development of curriculum of Food Science and Technology programmes and its variant Disciplines (Food Technology, Food Science, Food Science & Nutrition, Food Science and Biotechnology, Brewing Science & Technology, Brewing & Beverage Technology etc.) in the tertiary institutions and for accreditation of such programmes in partnership with National Universities Commission (for Universities) and National Board for Technical Education (for Polytechnics and Monotechnics). It shall also grant practice licence to qualified Food Scientists and Technologists and approve the business locations for their practice.

## **FUNCTIONS OF NiCFoST**

- a. Determine the standards of knowledge, exposure to equipment, practice, and skills to be attained by persons seeking to become members of the profession of Food Science and Technology and to be so registered.
- b. Promote the highest standards of competence, practice and conduct among the members of the food profession.
- c. Establish and maintain a register of persons entitled to practice the Food profession, register premises used for that purpose and publish list of persons and premises so registered.
- d. Determine the minimum scale of fees for members of the Food profession.
- e. Coordinate, regulate, facilitate, and promote the development of the profession in Nigeria.
- f. Collaborate with relevant national and international, governmental and non-governmental agencies
- g. Be responsible for the discipline, promotion and the determination of the terms and conditions of service of the employees
- h. Perform other functions as are necessary for attaining the objectives of this Act.

## 2.0 Requirements for Renewal of the NiCFoST Annual Practice Licence

The Nigerian Council of Food Science and Technology Establishment Act 2019 Part I Section 3 provides that the Council shall:

- (a) Determine the standards of knowledge, exposure to equipment, practice and skills to be attained by persons seeking to become members of the profession of Food Science and Technology (in this Act referred to as “the Food Profession”) and to be registered and review those standards as circumstances may require.
- (b) Promote the highest standards of competence, practice and conduct among the members of the food profession.

In fulfilment of these provisions and for professional Food Scientists and Technologists to continuously update their knowledge base, NiCFoST has outlined the requirements for the renewal of the Annual Licence as follows:

### 2.1 Score Guide for Food Scientists and Technologists in Different Categories of NIFST Membership

	Category	Requirements	Points	Minimum Score
<b>A</b>	1 - 5 Years of NIFST Membership	M.Sc Student	20	70
		M.Sc Degree	30	
		Ph.D Student	35	
		Ph.D Degree	45	
		NIFST ReFoST / Presentation	40 / 45	
		NIFST Conference / Presentation	55 / 60	
		International FST Conferences / Presentation	60 / 65	
		NiCFoST Training Workshop	35	
		Work Experience	30	
<b>B</b>	6 - 10 Years of NIFST Membership	M.Sc Student	15	70
		M.Sc Degree	25	
		Ph.D Student	30	
		Ph.D Degree	40	



		NIFST ReFoST / Presentation	30 / 35	
		NIFST Conference / Presentation	55 / 60	
		International FST Conferences / Presentation	60 / 65	
		NiCFoST Training Workshop	25	
		Int'l FST	30	
		Work Experience	25	
<b>C</b>	11-15 Years of NIFST Membership	M.Sc Student	15	70
		M.Sc Degree	20	
		Ph.D Student	25	
		Ph.D Degree	35	
		NIFST ReFoST / Presentation	25 / 30	
		NIFST Conference / Presentation	50 / 60	
		International FST Conferences / Presentation	60 / 65	
		NiCFoST Training Workshop	20	
		Int'l FST	35	
		Work Experience	20	
<b>D</b>	16 -20 Years of NIFST Membership	M.Sc Student	10	70
		M.Sc Degree	15	
		Ph.D Student	20	
		Ph.D Degree	30	
		NIFST ReFoST / Presentation	20 / 30	
		NIFST Conference / Presentation	40 / 50	
		International FST Conferences / Presentation	50 / 55	
		NiCFoST Training Workshop	40	
		Int'l FST	40	
		Work Experience	30	
<b>E</b>	21 - 25 Years of NIFST Membership	M.Sc Degree	10	70
		Ph.D Student	15	
		Ph.D Degree	25	
		NIFST ReFoST / Presentation	45 / 50	

		NIFST Conference / Presentation	40 / 50	
		International FST Conferences / Presentation	40 / 50	
		NiCFoST Training Workshop	45	
		Int'l FST	45	
		Work Experience	35	
<b>F</b>	Above 25 Years of NIFST Membership	M.Sc Degree	15	70
		Ph.D Degree	25	
		NIFST ReFoST / Presentation	50 / 55	
		NIFST Conference / Presentation	60 / 65	
		International FST Conferences / Presentation	35 / 40	
		NiCFoST Training Workshop	50	
		Int'l FST	45	
		Work Experience	40	
<b>G</b>	Fellows of NIFST, Food Scientists and Technologists above 60 years of age and those that have distinguished careers in Government/Policy Making. Industry/Trade and Academia/Research and International Scientific	Work Experience	70	70

### 3.0 Mandatory Continuing Professional Development (MCPD) Programme.

A major requirement for the registration of Food Scientists and Technologists and the renewal of Annual Licence for Registered Food Scientists and Technologists is participation in the Mandatory Continuing Professional Development (MCPD) programme. The MCPD programmes promote the ability of the FST professionals to appreciate and adjust to new challenges and become acquainted with emerging trends in the profession.

The MCPD programmes are not necessarily applied uniformly since due consideration will be given to the education and work experience of the candidates. The Annual Licence is valid for a one-year period and during this time, all FST professionals are expected to participate in different training events in order to increase their knowledge base and update their skills for improved competences. They are expected to obtain enough scores to qualify for the next renewal of licence.

The minimum score for renewal of Annual Licence is 70 points. The score for each professional is derivable from a package of training and assessment activities recommended for his/her category in which he/she is expected to participate.

The different recognised pre-registration/license renewal training/assessment activities are shown below:

	<b>Training / Assessment Activity</b>	<b>Description</b>
1.	M.Sc. & Ph.D Degree Programmes in Government Recognised Universities	Appropriate points shall be granted to professionals who are admitted for M.Sc. & Ph.D programmes that include a thesis/dissertation research study. No points shall be awarded after approved duration of the programme. Universities outside Nigeria will require authentication by The Federal Ministry of Education.
2.	NIFST Conference	Attendance to Annual Conference of NIFST. The attendance (daily until closing) to conference by registered FST professionals, shall be captured by NiCFoST. Higher scores will be gained if the professional makes a presentation (including posters) at the Technical or Plenary.
	NIFST REFoST	Attendance to Regional Food Summit of NIFST. The attendance (daily until closing) to the Summit by registered FST professionals, shall be captured by NiCFoST. Higher scores will be gained if the professional makes a presentation at the Technical or Plenary sessions of the Summit.

3.	International FST Conference	Attendance to international conferences hosted by associate/affiliate bodies of NIFST or IUFOST member bodies. Higher scores will be gained if the professional makes a peer reviewed presentation at the Technical or Plenary sessions of the Conference.
4.	NiCFoST Training Workshop	Special workshops organised by NiCFoST to focus on special topics in the profession and for enlightening professionals.
5.	International FST Certification	Professional Food Science and Technology Certification issued by International Organisations connected to sister bodies of NIFST or affiliated to IUFOST.
6.	Internship	This exercise involves having a supervised hands-on work experience at a relevant Government organization or Organized Private Sector facility under a NIFST Fellow or an experienced NIFST member in management level position.
7.	Qualifying Test	This is an examination held to test prospective candidates. This exercise could be organised specially or held at the end of other training activities.
8	Completion of a Finishing School (NiCFoST Academy) Programme	This is a training centre for theoretical and practical skills that relates more to the evolving realities of practising Food Science and Technology in Nigeria.
9.	Registration Interview / Special Topics Presentation	Deserving matured food professional applicants from within or outside Nigeria could be subjected to an interview by a panel set up for this purpose by NiCFoST. The candidate applying for registration may be required to make a presentation in an area he/she is well accomplished or a leading resource person.

## **4.0 Food Science and Technology (FST) Finishing School Certificate Course**

The FST Finishing School (or NiCFoST Academy) will be an institution for training graduates of FST in theoretical and hands-on aspects of real-life Nigerian food systems from the farm through processing and marketing to the final consumer while fulfilling all regulatory requirements. The course content will focus on key areas that may not get sufficient attention time in the Universities and Polytechnics due to time constraints. The FST Certificate course will cover but not limited to the following:

1. Food Science and Technology in crop/animal/fish breeding and varietal selection.
2. Food Science and Technology in crop/animal/fish production.
3. The Nigeria food value chain and supply system.
4. The structure and functions of the Nigeria Food Safety and Quality Management System.
5. Fundamentals of developing a commercial food business in Nigeria.
6. Traditional food processing systems: Prospects and Challenges.
7. Industrial scale food preservation technologies.
8. Regulatory Process for pre-packaged food products in Nigeria.
9. Fundamentals of food product marketing.
10. Low temperature storage and cold chain systems.
11. Small and medium scale food machinery (from on-farm post-harvest to finished food product packaging).
12. Considerations for industrial food processing plant design.
13. Nutrition value of Nigeria staples, diets and malnutrition challenges.
14. Food security related policies in Nigeria.
15. Principles of environmental protection and food waste management (including disposal and upcycling).
16. Food product development (Practical).
17. Modern processing of Nigeria food commodities (Practical).
18. Underutilized indigenous foods and foods of medicinal value.
19. Use of chemicals in food business.
20. Evolving trends in food science and technology practices.

(Some courses might be waived after due consideration of areas of specialization and career experience).