

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships combine real work with training and study. Being an apprentice isn't the same as being a college or university student. You won't just study and gain new knowledge as an apprentice, you'll be putting what you learn straight into practice. Apprentices don't have to pay tuition fees either.

There are apprenticeships available for thousands of different jobs in a range of industries from engineering, nursing or construction to a career in marketing, law or project management.



What is an apprenticeship?

As an apprentice you will:

- train for the workplace
- get hands-on experience
- earn a salary and get the same rights as employees, including sick leave and holiday pay
- spend at least 20% of your working hours training or studying
- undertake ongoing assessments, including an end-point assessment to gain a nationally recognised qualification

Apprenticeships can take between one and five years to complete, depending on the level, the sector, and whether it is full time or part time.

Who can be an apprentice?

You can apply for an apprenticeship if you are:

- 16 or older
- not in full-time education
- living in England*

What are the different apprenticeship levels?

There are four apprenticeship levels and each one has an equivalent education level:

Level 2 - These apprenticeships provide basic knowledge and skills for specific jobs and are equal to GCSEs.

Level 3 - These apprenticeships offer more specialised knowledge and skills and are equal to A levels.

Levels 4 to 7 - These apprenticeships focus on higher-level professional skills and can be equal to a foundation degree, a Higher National Certificate (HNC), or a Higher National Diploma (HND).

Levels 6 to 7 - These apprenticeships lead to either a full bachelor's or master's degree.

What are the entry requirements?

Each apprenticeship has its own specific entry requirements, depending on the field of study and the level of the programme.

You will have the opportunity to work towards Functional Skills in Maths and English if you have not achieved GCSE English and Maths at Grade C/4 or above (or equivalent) on entry to the apprenticeship programme.

What will I learn as an apprentice?

There is a minimum apprenticeship wage your employer has to pay you by law if you are an apprentice, although many employers will actually pay more. What you earn depends on the apprenticeship you are doing, your employer, your role and what year of an apprenticeship you are in.

To find out more, including how to apply, take a look at this website www.apprenticeships.gov.uk

*Apprenticeships are a Government funded programme and in order to qualify you must have been a UK resident for 3 or more years. However, there are some exceptions to this rule such as the Ukraine Family Scheme, Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme (Homes for Ukraine) and Ukraine Extension Scheme. Individual's immigration permissions would be checked in these circumstances.