

CONSIDERING AN APPRENTICESHIP?

There are lots of benefits to apprenticeships, here are our top 5:

1. **PAID TRAINING** Not only will your organisation (or the Government) pay for all of your training, but you'll be paid to do it. That means you could actually get paid to get your degree and have no debt!
2. **RANGE OF CAREER OPPORTUNITIES** There are over 500 different apprenticeships to choose from, in a range of industries. Whether you're interested in law, marketing, construction or engineering, you'll find something up your street!
3. **EARN & LEARN** As an apprentice, the minimum you'll earn is £4.15 an hour, but we've seen some apprentices earn over £25,000 a year! You could also get other employee benefits like gym memberships, paid holiday and sick pay.
4. **GREAT CAREER PROSPECTS** Employers think apprentices are 15% more employable than those with other qualifications. In fact, many large employers train their graduates and apprentices together!
5. **LEARN ON THE JOB** There's only so much you can learn when you just do a qualification. As an apprentice, you'll also get to learn on the job - whether that's designing amazing graphics, chopping vegetables or building engines!



APPRENTICESHIPS

Ready to get out into the world, start working and earning a living? Discover the future that's waiting for you, build valuable skills and get on the path to success. An apprenticeship gives you practical on-the-job experience, essential learning tools and all-important qualifications that will last you a lifetime, wherever tomorrow takes you.

Work Experience — You'll have a real job that you'll spend a majority of your time doing. Whether you're an engineer, lawyer or business administrator you'll be doing the same work as someone else in your job who wasn't doing an apprenticeship.

Mentor — You'll get a workplace mentor who is someone that has lots of industry experience to support you through your job and qualification

Qualification — whether you're working towards a qualification equivalent to GCSEs or up to a master level, you'll get something!

Workplace skills — developing the skills you need for the workplace and boosting your job prospects, your long-term career progression, and earning potential!

An apprenticeship is a real job. And employers respect them. In fact, they think that apprentices are 15% more employable than those with other qualifications. You'll be working alongside experienced people, supporting them and learning from them as you go. Working at least 30 hours a week, you'll gain most of the training you need in the workplace. But you may also go to a college, training provider, training centre or learn online to gain vital skills and qualifications.

Respected by employers across the world, an apprenticeship will lead to a national qualification, with a network of support available to give you all the help you need to do well. It's also in your employers' interest to help you succeed. And all your training will be designed with your employer. So, you can relax in the knowledge that you're learning the right stuff to get you ahead.

An apprenticeship is a great way to enjoy a successful start in work, and life. As well as learning the skills and gaining the qualifications you want, you'll also gain confidence and the chance to learn while earning. Every apprenticeship is different, but each one is varied, stimulating and challenging. Discover the apprenticeship that's right for you.

Why should I choose one?

Apprenticeships are a great option for starting your career, particularly as an alternative to university. Apprenticeships offer a great opportunity to complete a qualification that interests you, as well as developing on the job skills to further your career.

How do I apply for an apprenticeship?

To apply for an apprenticeship, you can search on the following:

www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

www.theskillsservice.co.uk/young-people/apprenticeships/

www.indeed.co.uk/jobs?q=Apprenticeships&l=

www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk/

You will be able to find opportunities near you at the level you're looking for. You can filter the various searches based on industries, salary etc.

How much do I get paid?

You'll get paid a salary when you do an apprenticeship. This includes your employer paying you when you're working, when you're studying and also when you're on holiday! See the current wage rates:

Wage band	Current rate from 1 April 2020
25 and over	£8.72
21 to 24	£8.20
18 to 20	£6.45
Under 18	£4.55
Apprentice	£4.15

Many apprentices pay much more than minimum wage – we've seen Apprenticeships at £36,000 in the past! You will be entitled to the minimum wage of your age (not minimum wage) after the first year of your apprenticeship.

How long do they last?

The minimum duration of an Apprenticeship is 12 months. This allows you the time to get your qualification and the industry experience required for your End Point Assessment (final sign off of your apprenticeship). Apprenticeships at a higher level, such as degree apprenticeships can last up to 6 years, you'll have a lot more coursework! Apprenticeships also tend to last longer in industries such as law or building surveying if you're working towards chartered status and qualifications.

What is apprenticeship training?

To find out about apprenticeships you need to know all about the training that goes into the qualification. As an apprentice, you'll spend 20% of your training working towards a qualification that you can apply to your day job. It depends on your provider and employer on what you'll be doing, you could study at work, at home or go to college or university to get your qualification. Some apprenticeships even involve you spending weeks away at a time doing block release!

What types of Apprenticeships are there?

Level 2 - Intermediate Apprenticeships – The equivalent to getting 5 GCSEs A*-C
Level 3 – Advanced Apprenticeships – The equivalent of L3 BTECs at College or A-Levels
Level 4, 5, 6 - Higher Apprenticeship – These are equivalent to the different levels at university. Level 4 is first year, level 5 is second year and level 6 is final year.
Level 6 – Degree Apprenticeship – This is the equivalent to getting a Bachelor's degree.
Level 7 – Professional Apprenticeship – This is the equivalent of a Master's degree.

Who can do an apprenticeship?

Apprenticeships are suitable for anybody at any age, although most people think they are just for school and college leavers. Whether you're looking to start your career after school or university, or you want to change your career route – apprenticeships are for everyone! Many employers even put their current members of staff on Apprenticeships to help them develop, this includes anything from management to engineering qualifications, so they learn the latest techniques!

What's after an apprenticeship?

What you choose to do after your apprenticeship is really up to you – there is lots of options! Many employers will ask you to stay after your apprenticeship as you already know the ins and outs of the business – often this comes with a pay rise too! When you complete your apprenticeship, you can choose to move to another organisation, or even move onto a higher-level course to further develop your skills.

Once you've started your apprenticeship you don't have to stay in employment, you still have the option to go to University or even to go on a gap year!

When do apprenticeships start?

Apprenticeships start throughout the year, so there are always opportunities available. If you want to find an apprenticeship you just have to search them online!

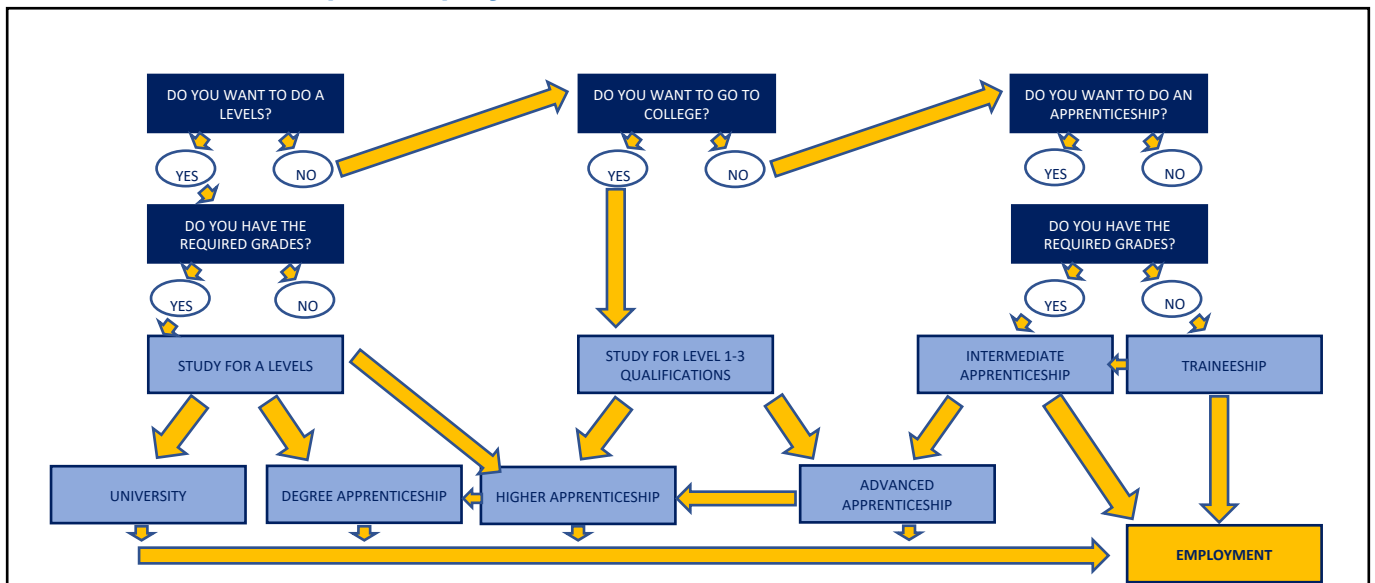
Bigger companies who recruit apprentices do have key hiring periods. These tend to be January, March and September however you should check employer websites to be sure about each employer, as they're all different.

Progression to apprenticeships

Opportunities for progression in an apprenticeship can be very vast, particularly with bigger organisations but also with small ones. This is because as you progress in your training and with the employer you can get more responsibility. Often, with taking more responsibility will also mean increments. You can also progress through the levels of apprenticeships, so you could start at an intermediate apprenticeship and work up to getting your degree!

Some organisations also do rotations within the company which will give you understanding of lots of business areas. This makes progression a lot easier as you really understand the entirety of the business you work in.

Route map to employment



Find out more

If you're interested in finding out more, visit the following website:

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk>