

Now there is a real alternative to traditional university study. With the growth of higher and degree apprenticeships, you have the opportunity to move your career forward and gain professional skills – and all while working and earning a salary.

With a degree apprenticeship you can achieve a full Bachelor's or Master's degree. And just like traditional degrees, an apprenticeship is a great route to a great career.

The facts

If you are over 16, live in England and are not in full-time education you can apply for an apprenticeship. Apprenticeships are available at intermediate, advanced, higher and degree levels.

All apprenticeships are real jobs so all apprentices earn a salary. You must be paid at least the national minimum apprenticeship wage and many employers pay significantly more. Apprentices should work for at least 30 hours per week. Entry requirements depend on the sector and prior skills. If you have achieved A-levels you may still be expected to start at intermediate or advanced level as some sectors, such as engineering, require you to build up your occupational skills.

Apprenticeships are available in 1,500 job roles covering more than 170 industries. There are currently 75 higher and degree apprenticeships available (with more in development) including foundation degrees, HNDs and full honours degrees. These include job roles ranging from legal services to banking and engineering, giving you the chance to continue your professional development and realise your full potential.

- Over 20,000 people have started a higher apprenticeship since August 2013 and numbers are growing rapidly.
- The Government has announced additional budget to fund the higher education qualifications that make up a higher apprenticeship. This means no student loans and so no debt.
- Those completing a higher apprenticeship could see increased earning of an estimated £150,000 over their lifetime*
- Employers think that qualified higher apprentices are 25% more employable than those that took another route into work*
- On completion 90% of apprentices stay in employment with 71% staying with the same employer. A quarter receive a promotion within 12 months.

How are they structured?

Higher and degree apprenticeships are available at levels 4-7. They combine work with study and may include a work-based, academic or combined qualification or a professional qualification relevant to the industry. Levels 4 and 5 are equivalent to a Higher Education Certificate/Diploma or a foundation degree, level 6 is equivalent to a Bachelor's degree and level 7 is equivalent to a Master's degree. Typically, higher apprentices study part time at college, university or with a training provider. Apprenticeships take between one and five years to complete.

There are two kinds of higher apprenticeships currently available – apprenticeship frameworks and apprenticeship standards. In the future all apprenticeship frameworks will be replaced by new apprenticeship standards.

How do I find a higher or degree apprenticeship?

You can 'get in and go far' with a higher or degree apprenticeship at some of Britain's biggest and brightest companies. Over 240,000 workplaces employed an apprentice in 2013/14, including 'blue chip' British and international companies such as Cap Gemini, Ford, ITV, Airbus, Rolls-Royce, Barclays and the BBC. With so many opportunities on offer you can find the apprenticeship that's right for you.

Applying is easy. Visit GOV.UK and search 'Find an apprenticeship'. There are up to 27,000 apprenticeship vacancies on the site at any one time.

For any assistance using the job site:
Telephone: 08000 150 140 (free from landlines and mobiles)
Email: nationalhelpdesk@findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk

HIGHER AND DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP FRAMEWORKS IN ENGLAND	FRAMEWORK	LEVEL	FRAMEWORK	LEVEL
	Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care		Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	
	Agriculture	4	Advanced Diagnostic and Management Principles	4
	Arts, Media and Publishing		Advanced Manufacturing Engineering	4
	Advertising and Marketing Communications	4	Engineering Environmental Technologies	4
	Broadcast Production	4	Fashion and Textiles: Technical	4
	Broadcast Technology	6	Furniture Manufacturing Technician	5
	Digital Learning Design	4	Jewellery, Silversmithing and Allied Trades	4
	Interactive Design and Development	4	Mineral Products Technology	4/5
	Business, Administration and Law		Power Engineering	4
	Accounting	4	Professional Aviation Pilot Practice	6
	Banking	4	Sustainable Resource Management	4
	Business and Professional Administration	4	The Water Industry	4
	Business Innovation and Growth	5	Health, Public Services and Care	
	Contact Centre Operations Management	4	Care Leadership and Management	5
	Criminal Investigation	5	Health – Assistant Practitioner	5
	Human Resource Management	5	Intelligence Operations	4
	Insurance	4	Information and Communication Technology	
	Legal Services	4	Information Security	4
	Management	4/5	IT, Software, Web and Telecoms Professionals	4
	Professional Services	4	Retail and Commercial Enterprise	
	Project Management	4	Express Logistics	5
	Public Relations	4	Facilities Management	4/5
	Recruitment	4	Hospitality Management	4
Social Media and Digital Marketing	4	Retail Management	4	
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment		Supply Chain Management	5	
Construction Management	4/5/6	Science and Mathematics		
Education and Training		Life Sciences and Chemical Science Professionals	4/5	
Professional Development for Work-Based Learning Practitioners	4/5			

HIGHER AND DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP STANDARDS IN ENGLAND	SECTOR	LEVEL	SECTOR	LEVEL
	Actuarial		Financial Services	
	Actuarial Technician	4	Relationship Manager (Banking)	6
	Aerospace		Investment Operations Specialist	4
	Aerospace Engineer	6	Paraplanner	4
	Aerospace Software Development Engineer	6	Law	
	Automotive		Chartered Legal Executive	6
	Control /Technical Support Engineer	6	Solicitor	7
	Electrical /Electronic Technical Support Engineer	6	Leadership and Management	
	Manufacturing Engineer	6	Chartered Manager – degree apprenticeship	6
	Product Design and Development Engineer	6	Life and Industrial Sciences	
	Conveyancing and Probate		Laboratory Scientist	5
	Conveyancing Technician	4	Nuclear	
	Licensed Conveyancer	6	Nuclear Welding Inspection Technician	4
	Defence		Nuclear Scientist and Nuclear Engineer	6
	Systems Engineering – masters	7	Surveying	
	Dental Health		Chartered Surveyor	6
	Dental Technician	5		
	Dental Practice Manager	4		
	Digital Industries			
	Network Engineer	4		
	Software Developer	4		
	Digital & Technology Solutions Professional – degree apprenticeship	6		

If you need professional advice on making the right choices, visit nationalcareerservice.direct.gov.uk for a web-chat with an adviser or call **0800 100 900** (free from landlines and mobiles).

For more information search apprenticeships on gov.uk