

Apprenticeships Guide

Apprenticeships are a great option if you would like to work (and earn money!) while you continue to study.

Successfully completing an apprenticeship will give you a new qualification, and valuable workplace experience, setting you up for further study or employment.

There are a huge number of apprenticeship opportunities, with option for those with GCSE qualifications only, and those with GCSEs and Level 3 qualifications e.g. A levels or BTECs.

Advanced apprenticeships

Entry Requirements: generally 5 GCSEs grades 4-9, including English and Maths.

Qualifications: Level 3, equivalent to two A levels.

Benefits: You will gain valuable skills and experiences that will impress future employers or university/college admission teams.

Higher apprenticeships

Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs grades 4-9, including English and Maths; some require Level 3 qualifications (e.g. A Levels or BTEC) as well, and some may require specific relevant subjects.

Qualifications: Level 4, equivalent to a Foundation degree.

Benefits: Your training will be paid for the government and employer, and you will gain a head start in the profession.

Degree apprenticeship

Entry Requirements: Can be similar to university courses, with 5 GCSEs grades 4-9, including English and Maths, and UCAS points equivalent to 3 A Levels or a BTEC Extended Diploma; some may require specific relevant subjects.

Qualifications: Level 6, equivalent to an undergraduate degree.

Benefits: After 3-6 years on the apprenticeship, you will have a qualification equivalent to a university graduate, but without the student debt.

You can find information about apprenticeships on the following websites:

- UCAS: <https://www.ucas.com/understanding-apprenticeships>
- HM Government: <https://www.gov.uk/topic/further-education-skills/apprenticeships>
- National Careers Service: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/apprenticeship>

If you have a company or sector in mind, you can also directly search online for opportunities.

Here are some examples of apprenticeship schemes, with salaries of £16,00 – £25,000.

KPMG Law Apprenticeship

Ideal if you're interested in **Law**

They say: "As an apprentice in Law, you'll help shape the future of law in a career that's full of intellectually stimulating work and variety. Working alongside, and learning from, some of the brightest minds."

Qualifications: Level 7 Solicitor Apprenticeship

Programme length: 6 years

Entry requirements:

- Minimum 5 GCSEs Grades 4 – 9 GCSE inc. Maths (minimum Grade 5) and English Language
- Minimum of 112 UCAS points e.g. BBC at A Level or equivalent qualifications

Locations: UK-wide, including London

KPMG Business Services Apprenticeship

Ideal if you're interested in **Business or Finance**

They say: "KPMG Business Services offer a two year apprenticeship programme which will give you an insight of Business Services and how we support the wider organisation."

Qualifications: Level 4 Business Administration Apprenticeship

Programme length: 2 years

Entry requirements: Minimum 5 GCSEs at 4 – 9 (inc. English Language and Maths)

Locations: UK-wide, including London

TfL Apprenticeships

Ideal if you're interested in **transport, infrastructure, Engineering, customer service**

Opens in March each year.

They say: "TfL's apprenticeships are nationally recognised, and they offer professional qualifications at the completion of a programme. Our apprentices are our employees and they get a range of benefits. Moreover, they can secure a permanent position upon successful completion of their apprenticeship."

Qualifications: Levels 2-4, and Level 6 Degree Apprenticeships available.

Programme length: Lower-level apprenticeships (Levels 2-4) are usually 2-3 years long; Level 6 are around 5 years.

All apprentices spend 80% time at work and 20% in education. During the last 3 months of an apprenticeship, once apprentices have met successfully the requirements of the apprenticeship standard, they will complete an End Point Assessment.

Entry requirements: Most require 5 GCSEs, including English and Maths.

Locations: London

Network Rail Level 3 Finance Apprenticeship scheme

Ideal if you're interested in **transport, infrastructure, Engineering, customer service**

Schemes open in October each year.

They say: "[The scheme] provides a unique opportunity to understand different aspects of finance and how they all interact with the wider business... You'll be mentored and guided by former graduates and senior finance leaders, who will empower you to grow and develop. Working independently, you'll learn how to excel in high pressured environments.

"As an Apprentice you'll rotate across a range of placements and a variety of departments giving you a unique experience of how finance works within Network Rail. You'll support finance teams with forecasting, budgeting and analysis as well as taking the lead on meetings and reporting to senior members of the company."

Qualifications: Apprentices complete AAT level 3 and level 4, and CIMA level 7 apprenticeship programme and receive Associate status with the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA).

Programme length: 4.5 years – 5 years.

Starting salary: £17,000

Locations: Milton Keynes and regional offices.

Rolls-Royce Apprenticeships

Ideal if you're interested in **Engineering, manufacturing, or business**

They say: "Gain advanced engineering, manufacturing, scientific, digital or procurement skills and study across our businesses or central functions."

Qualifications: Higher & Degree Apprenticeships (Post A level)

Programme length: 2 -4 years

Starting salary: £13,860 per year

Locations: Bristol, Derby, Glasgow

Financial Conduct Authority Apprenticeship Programmes

Ideal if you're interested in **Business or Finance**

Qualifications:

- Level 7 (equivalent to postgraduate degree) in Accountancy
- Level 4 in Project Management, Cyber Security, Data Analyst, Insurance

Programme length: 18-36 month in length. They have Level 4 and Level 7 programmes available across the majority of their divisions. You'll develop new skills and gain an industry leading professional qualification.

Entry Requirements: They don't require you to have previous work experience, but you will need to have attained 5 GCSEs (4-9) and 2 A Levels (or equivalent).

Locations: London and Edinburgh

M&S Retail Management School Leaver Programme

Ideal if you're interested in **retail, Business or management**

They say: "you'll get to experience every aspect of how a store operates, from supply chain and sales floor to our branding and customer behaviour before becoming a Team Manager."

Qualifications: Level 4

Programme length: 12-18 months

Starting salary: Minimum £21,500 per annum, £23,500 for Greater London.

Locations: UK-wide, including London

Channel 4 Business Analyst Apprentice

Ideal if you're interested in **Business or Creative Media**

They say: "Our Apprenticeships are full-time, with four days per week spent working in a C4 department and one day per week completing the formal learning parts of the Apprenticeship. Our Apprentices have external tutors who deliver workshops and seminars to them and offer support throughout the apprenticeship."

Qualification: Business Analysis Apprenticeship Level 4 (via the Apprentice and Training Partnership).

Entry Requirements: You will need 5 GCSEs grades 9-4 or equivalent (including English Language and Maths) and some knowledge of business and IT (whether this is through education or wider experience).

Location: London

Bank of England Level 4 Apprenticeship Development Programme

Ideal if you're interested in **Economics, Business or Finance**

Programme length: 18 months

Opportunities available: Associate Project Manager; Data Analyst; Information System Business Analyst; Professional Accounting/Taxation Technician

Entry Requirements: You will need a minimum of five GCSEs at C (4) and above, including English and Math's, and at least 72 UCAS points (either passed or predicted) from up to three A Levels or equivalent using the 2017 UCAS Tariff System.

Starting salary: £21,000 salary.

Bank of England Degree Apprenticeship Development Programme

Ideal if you're interested in **Economics, Business or Finance**

Programme length: 36 months to get started in a career while studying towards a fully-funded degree: degree studies will continue post-programme and can take 4 years.

Entry Requirements:

- For Data Science Degree Apprenticeship, you will need: at least five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English and Maths; and achieved or be predicted three A-Levels at BBB or above, or equivalent.
- For Digital and Technology Solutions Degree Apprenticeship, you will need: at least five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English Language and Maths; and achieved or be predicted three A-Levels at AAB or BTEC DDD.
- For Professional Economist Degree Apprenticeship, you will need: at least five GCSEs at grade 4 including GCSE Maths grade 7 with and English grade 4; and achieved or be predicted three A-Levels at BBB or equivalent (at or above 120 UCAS points).

Starting salary: £23,000 salary.

National Grid Higher or Degree Apprenticeship Programmes

Ideal if you're interested in **Science, Engineering, or infrastructure**

Qualification: Level 4 qualification, **AND** apprentices are offered a **full-time position** on successful completion of their programme.

Entry Requirements: most programmes require you to have a GCSE in English Language and Maths at Grade 4 or above (or equivalent), plus 2 A levels A*-C (1 must be in either Maths or Physics). You will also need to learn to drive!

Starting salary: £19,098 for Advanced Apprentice, £24,999 for Higher Apprentice (including full-board accommodation whilst at their training academy).

Locations: Nottinghamshire, Warwick or Wokingham.

BBC Broadcast Engineering Degree Apprentice Scheme – Level 6

Ideal if you're interested in **Engineering or Creative Media**

They say: “Learn about technologies and systems for TV, radio and digital channels, and how they produce high-quality content that’s distributed around the world... Develop the specialised skills to design, build and maintain the media production and broadcasting technologies and systems that take the BBC into the future.”

Programme length: 3 Years

Entry Requirements: 112 UCAS points. This must include a Maths A level/Higher, or an Extended BTEC in Engineering with Engineering Maths, or equivalent qualification.

Starting salary: £15,074 (+ London Living Allowance of £4,729 for London based roles)

Locations: Southampton, Nottingham, Belfast, Glasgow, Manchester, London

BT Degree Apprentice Software Engineer

Ideal if you’re interested in **Engineering or Creative Media**

They say: “The degree course runs for four years and is a work-based learning degree. You’ll spend a minimum of 20% of your time learning and studying.”

Entry Requirements: You’ll need 5 GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Language and Maths, and 3 A levels grades BCC to AAB (depending on location).

Starting salary: £16,422

Locations: Ipswich, Bristol, Birmingham, Manchester and Belfast