

What is an Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is a real job with training so you can earn while you learn and pick up nationally recognised qualifications as you go. Apprenticeships take between one and four years to complete and cover 1500 job roles in a wide range of industries. When you start work as an Apprentice you must have a contract of employment and working a minimum of 30 hours a week and a maximum of 40 hours a week.

Key Benefits:

- Earning a salary
- Training in the skills employers want
- Excellent progression opportunities whether looking to study further or climb the ranks within the workplace
- Increased future earning potential. Apprentices enjoy marked salary increases when they complete their training
- Better long term salary prospects
- Learning at a pace suited to the individual with the support of a mentor
- Paid holiday and all the benefits of being employed

An Apprenticeship includes the following:

- A knowledge based element related to the job role
- A skills based element related to the job role
- A behaviours element related to the job role
- Functional Skills in English and maths (and ICT if relevant to the job role)
- An end point assessment by an independent assessment centre

Duration

The length of an Apprenticeship varies depending on prior skills levels of the Apprentice, the qualification being obtained and industry sector. Generally, Apprenticeships take between 15 months and 4 years to complete.

Finding an Apprenticeship

1. The National Apprenticeship Service runs Find an Apprenticeship is a free online resource. Sign up for email and text alerts when a new opportunity is added.
2. Higher and Degree Apprenticeships are available at levels 4 to 7. They combine work with study and may include a work-based, academic or combined qualification or a professional qualification relevant to the industry.
3. Approach local companies yourself directly and ask if they take on Apprentices.
4. The Institute for Apprenticeships is a useful source of information

Earn While You Learn

All Apprentices are paid a wage. The Apprentice National Minimum Wage is £4.30 per hour. The average weekly apprenticeship wage in Hertfordshire is around £200 per week but many of our employers pay more than this.

The Apprentice National Minimum Wage applies to all 16 to 18 year olds and to those aged 19 and over in the first year of their Apprenticeship.

If you reach age 19 and have completed the first year of your Apprenticeship your employer must pay you at least the full National Minimum Wage rate for those aged 19 to 20. If you are already 19 and have completed the first year of your Apprenticeship you must be paid at least the National Minimum Wage rate for your age.

Studying at College

Apprentices will be required to participate in learning at College, the length of this depends on your prior knowledge, the qualifications being obtained and your industry. Some apprenticeships require a day release at college for the duration of the Apprenticeship, for others this may involve attendance at masterclasses, assessments, English and maths lessons and exams.

The Cost of an Apprenticeship

While you are on an Apprenticeship, your employer pays you a salary and supports you whilst you undertake your training. As an apprentice you must receive 20% off the job training within the workplace, in College or with a specialist learning provider.

Government funding and/or your employer will pay the costs of your training depending on your age and the level of Apprenticeship.

Our Apprenticeships

(S) = Standard

Construction

- Carpentry and Joinery Level 2, 3 (S)
- Property Maintenance Operative Level 2

Education and Teaching

- Early Years Practitioner Level 2 (S)
- Early Years Educator Level 3 (S)
- Teaching Assistant Level 3 (S)

Electrotechnical

- Electrical Installation Level 3 (S)

Hairdressing and Barbering

- Hair Professional Level 2 (S)
- Advanced and Creative Hair professional Level 3 (S)

Motor Vehicle

- Auto Care Technician Level 2 (S)
- Motor Vehicle Service & Maintenance Technician (Light Vehicle) Level 3 (S)
- Heavy Vehicle Service & Maintenance Technician Level 3 (S)
- Vehicle Damage (MET) Technician (S)
- Vehicle Damage Paint Technician (S)
- Vehicle Damage Panel Technician (S)

Plumbing

- Plumbing and Domestic Heating Technician Level 3 (S)

We're adding more apprenticeships all the time, if you're looking for something different then please speak to our team.

westherts.ac.uk
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APPRENTICESHIPS

