

YOUR CHOICE

YOUR APPRENTICESHIP

MAKE IT HAPPEN



The Apprenticeship Hub

Liverpool City Region



A guide to

Higher and Degree apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are now available at high levels, offering a recognised and respected alternative to university education.

Many prestigious employers now see Apprenticeships as a way of recruiting and developing staff with the higher level specialist skills needed for the success and productivity of their businesses. Because of this, there are many opportunities available and so more individuals are choosing Apprenticeships as a way of building long term careers.

Higher and Degree Level Apprenticeships

Higher and Degree Apprenticeships provide industry standard skills and recognised qualifications on a par with university education.

The employer and the Government cover the cost of training and getting qualified which means no university debts. Add to this the fact that an apprentice is paid a wage, and it starts to become clear why Higher and Degree level Apprenticeships are such an attractive option.

www.apprenticeshiphub.org.uk

What is an Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is a proper job combined with structured skills development and ongoing assessment.

An apprentice is employed and paid whilst they learn, and the Apprenticeship ultimately gives them the professional skills, knowledge and the experience to do a specific job. Apprentices acquire their skills through a mix of workplace learning, formal classroom learning, and practising tasks in a genuine work environment.

How to apply?

To find Apprenticeship vacancies, visit [gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship).

You can register to receive updates for vacancies in particular sectors or geographical areas. You can also search recruitment websites and in the jobs pages of local press as employers often advertise Apprenticeship positions themselves. Apprenticeships vacancies are available all year round.

To find out more about Higher and Degree level Apprenticeships in Liverpool City Region visit www.apprenticeshiphub.org.uk

Higher and Degree level Apprenticeships – qualification levels

Apprenticeships start at level 2. Higher and Degree Apprenticeships are available at levels 4 to 7:

Apprenticeship level	Educational equivalent
Levels 4 and 5	Higher Education Certificate/Diploma/Foundation degree
Level 6	Bachelor's degree
Level 7	Master's degree

The Key Facts

1. Choice

Higher and Degree Apprenticeships are currently available in around 30 industry sectors. This is set to increase over the coming months and years.

2. Employment rights

An apprentice is employed with the same rights as other employees eg an employment contract and paid leave.

3. Costs

Training costs are covered by the employer and the Government

4. Training structure

Higher apprentices combine their employment with part-time study at college, university or with a specialist training organisation.

5. Length of study

Apprenticeships take between one and five years to complete

6. Entry requirements

Depends on the sector and prior skills. Some candidates may have to start on an intermediate or

advanced Apprenticeship to build up occupational skills in sectors such as engineering.

7. Wages

The minimum wage for apprentices (currently £3.70 per hour).

Apprentices aged 19+ are entitled to the national minimum wage after they have completed the first year of their apprenticeship. Many businesses pay more, particularly for higher apprentices.

8. Avoid debts

Individuals who choose higher Apprenticeships over traditional university routes will avoid annual university tuition fees of £9000, plus any associated living costs.

9. Discounts

Apprentices can purchase a NUS Apprentice Extra Card for £11 per year giving discounts on a variety of products and services.