

# A GUIDE TO HIGHER AND DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

Now there is a real alternative to traditional university study. With the growth of higher and degree apprenticeships, you can gain your qualification, learn professional skills, progress your career plus earn a wage, want to find out more?

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, see [gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates](http://gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates) for further information. 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.

## 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.

## How do I find a higher or degree apprenticeship?

Over 240,000 workplaces employed an apprentice including 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, just visit [GOV.UK/apply-apprenticeship](http://GOV.UK/apply-apprenticeship). There are up to 28,000 apprenticeship vacancies on the site at any one time.

08000 150 140 (free from landlines and mobiles)  
Email: [nationalhelpdesk@findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](mailto:nationalhelpdesk@findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)

If you need professional advice on making the right choices, visit:

[nationalcareerservice.direct.gov.uk](http://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](http://gov.uk)