

APPRENTICESHIPS IN ENGLAND INFORMATION LEAFLET

An introduction to apprenticeships in England

What is an apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a real job where you learn, gain experience and get paid. You're an employee with a contract of employment and holiday leave. By the end of an apprenticeship, you'll have the right skills and knowledge needed for your chosen career.

How long does an apprenticeship take to complete?

It can take between one and six years to complete an apprenticeship depending on which one you choose, what level it is and your previous experience.

Is there a cost involved?

Apprenticeships are funded from contributions made by the government and your employer. This means you will not have any student loans or tuition fees. You will just need to cover the cost of your day-to-day expenses, such as lunch and travel.

If you're 16 to 24 and a care leaver, you'll receive a £3,000 bursary payment to support you in the first year of your apprenticeship.

How much is an apprentice paid?

What you earn will depend on the industry, location and type of apprenticeship you choose. If you're aged 16 to 18 or in the first year of your apprenticeship, you're entitled to the apprentice rate. If you're 19 or over and

have completed the first year of your apprenticeship, you're entitled to the National Minimum Wage. This is the minimum you'll earn - many employers pay a lot more and offer their apprentices a competitive salary.

Who can become an apprentice?

To become an apprentice, you must:

- be 16 or over
- not already be in full-time education
- live in England

You can start an apprenticeship whether you're starting your career, want a change or you're upskilling in your current job. You can have a previous qualification like a degree and still start an apprenticeship.

What are the benefits of an apprenticeship?

As an apprentice you will:

- learn and train for a specific job
- get paid and receive holiday leave
- get hands-on experience in a real job
- study for the equivalent of at least 6 hours per week of your working hours - usually at a college, university or with a training provider
- complete assessments during and at the end of your apprenticeship
- be on a career path with lots of future potential

Levels of an apprenticeship

Each apprenticeship has a level and an equivalent education level. You can start an apprenticeship at any level.

Depending on the level, some apprenticeships may:

- require previous qualifications such as an English or maths GCSE
- give extra training in the English or maths skills needed so you're at the right level

At the end of your apprenticeship, you'll achieve the equivalent education level.

For example, if you complete a level 3 apprenticeship, you'll achieve the equivalent of an A level.

INTERMEDIATE

Level:

2

Equivalent
education level:

GCSE

ADVANCED

Level:

3

Equivalent
education level:

A Level

HIGHER

Level:

4, 5, 6 and 7

Equivalent
education level:

Higher National
Certificate and above

DEGREE

Level:

6 and 7

Equivalent
education level:

Bachelor's or
master's degree

How UCAS can support you

Students can now see apprenticeship opportunities alongside undergraduate courses through the UCAS Hub which enables them to explore all their options and build a profile in one place.

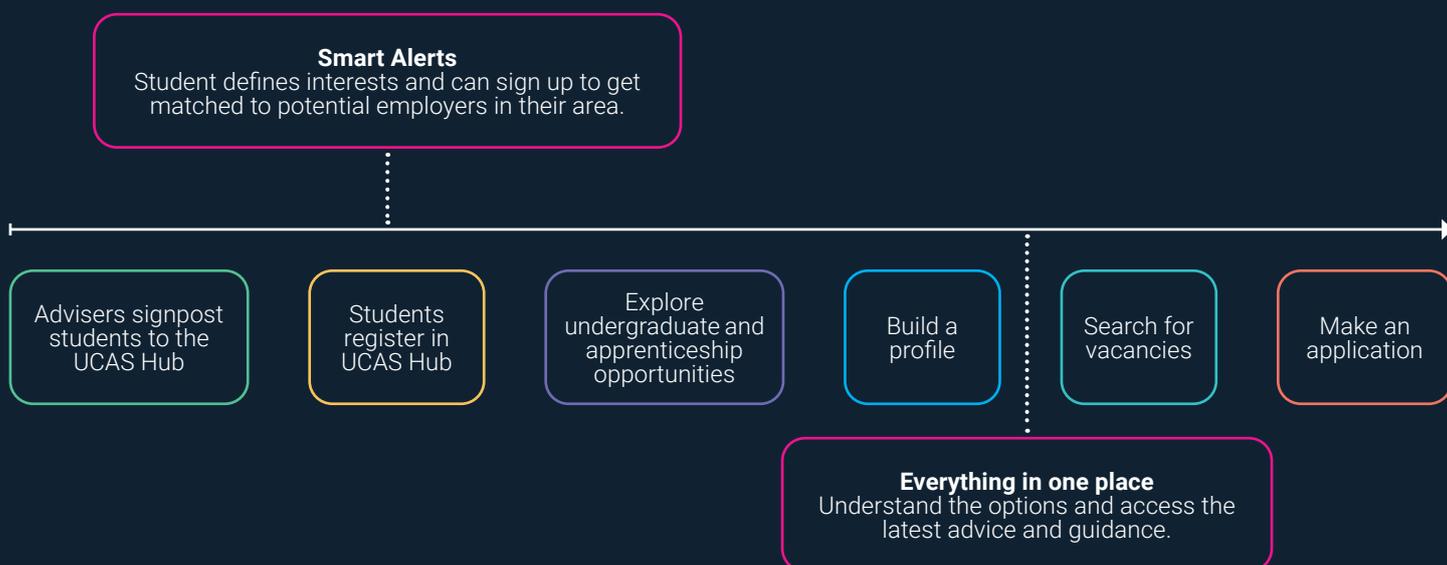
Students can use the Hub to:

- explore industries, employers, locations, careers and jobs
- shortlist their favourites
- find out where to start
- find out how to apply

Linking students to relevant opportunities

Smart alerts are a new matching service offered by UCAS. The service enables students to be matched to regional vacancies. When students create their Hub account they can sign up to receive information about apprenticeships and relevant matches in their chosen area.

The Student Journey



VISIT [UCAS.COM/ADVISERS](https://ucas.com/advisers) FOR ALL THE LATEST RESOURCES TO SUPPORT YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS

