

# Degree Apprenticeships



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## What is a Degree Apprenticeship?

A degree apprenticeship is a job, where you earn a salary, train and learn in work and off-the-job while studying for a bachelor's (Level 6) or master's (Level 7) degree with a university or higher education provider. It is not an academic or a vocational programme of learning; it is both. A degree apprenticeship is not an 'alternative' to university or getting a degree. Again, it is both a degree programme and an apprenticeship. On successful completion of your learning you will be awarded an apprenticeship certificate and a bachelor's or master's degree relevant to your occupation. Where the apprenticeship contains a mandatory full Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree the title must contain the word 'degree'.

It is a relatively recent introduction to the range of apprenticeships in England where there has been a long tradition of apprenticeships in craft, trade and service sector roles. Now, degree apprenticeships have been developed as an aspirational programme with employers, and often professional bodies, creating opportunities for individuals of all ages and backgrounds to progress in and through work to achieve high level skills in a range of graduate jobs and professions that employers need.

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## Why do a Degree Apprenticeship?

A degree apprenticeship gives you a chance to develop the work competencies needed in your chosen occupation. It provides good value for money for you, as you pay no tuition fees and incur no student debt all while receiving a salary from your employer. What is very exciting is that there has been a growth of degree apprenticeships in STEM areas, for key public sector occupations and private sector roles, managers and senior leaders which now provide a fast track to a great career and increased earning potential.

Whilst there are now around 50 degree apprenticeships in highly skilled roles from architect to supply chain leadership professional this list is our current most popular level 6 (bachelor) degree apprenticeships where you will be working towards a professional level of knowledge, skill, self-awareness and behaviour. It features jobs in business, construction, engineering, technology, public service, nursing and health science and includes those apprenticeships to which employers can typically recruit school or college leavers.

Below we have included information on some of the most popular degree apprenticeships.

# 01

## Chartered Manager

### Summary

This role could be described as: manager, senior manager, head of department, operations manager or someone with significant management responsibilities across a wide range of business functions. You will have, at the end of your apprenticeship, management and leadership responsibility dealing with complex situations and delivering impact at a strategic and/or operational level. The role may include high level decision making, setting direction and achieving results, building and leading teams, giving clear communication, developing skills and motivating others, fostering inclusive and ethical cultures, leading change, managing projects, financial management, innovation, risk management and developing stakeholder relationships.

Apprentices will work towards achieving a degree in management and business – either BA (Hons); BSc (Hons) or BBA (Hons) – or dual accreditation, for example an ILM Diploma in Leadership and Management, alongside the degree programme. Successful apprentices are able to apply for and be assessed for professional recognition as chartered managers and members of the Chartered Management Institute (CMgr MCMI) and/or as a member of the Institute for Leadership & Management (ILM) or another relevant professional body.

### Duration

Typically 4 years

### Entry criteria

Individual employers will decide their own recruitment criteria. Candidates may have level 3 qualifications (the same educational level as A2), and English, maths and ICT at level 2 (equivalent to GCSE). Alternatively, relevant or prior experience may also be considered.

### An example of who is recruiting includes:

The following companies have recruited: Airbus (a leader in designing, manufacturing and delivering aerospace products), the Cabinet Office (responsible for supporting the UK Cabinet and office of the Prime Minister), Fujitsu (a multinational information technology equipment and services company), Ministry of Defence (HQ of the British Armed Forces), Nestlé (a transnational food and drink company) and Stateside Foods Ltd (a chilled pizza production and development company).

## 02

## Chartered Surveyor

### Summary

There are several types of surveyor acting on behalf of clients or their employer including: building surveyors, commercial or residential property surveyors, planning and development surveyors, rural surveyors, minerals and waste management surveyors, valuation surveyors, and consultant (Professional) quantity or project management surveyors. Main responsibilities are to provide professional advice and recommendations to clients relating to land, property or construction following a full appraisal of its commercial potential; manage client instructions; work with other professionals; negotiate contracts and prices and, analyse data.

Successful apprentices will achieve a degree in surveying and full chartered membership of the professional body, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS).

### Duration

Typically 5 years

### Entry criteria

Individual employers will decide on their own recruitment. Entry criteria may be a minimum of three A levels at Grade C or above or their equivalent or a level 3 (or higher) apprenticeship achieved in a construction or property related discipline/occupation such as surveying technician or digital engineering technician.

### An example of who is recruiting includes:

This has proved to be an apprenticeship with a high demand for recruits from employers. The following companies have recruited to this apprenticeship: carlfordseaden (an award-winning multi-disciplinary construction consultancy), Munday + Cramer (a multi-disciplinary practice offering architectural, building surveying, project management, facilities and property management services) and Weston Homes (UK house builder).

## 03

## Civil Engineer

### Summary

A civil engineer works as part of a team with other construction professionals through all stages of development, design, construction, commissioning, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of complex civil engineering infrastructure across public and private sector organisations. You will develop a broad skills base to work in areas including sustainable construction, structural integrity, geotechnics (engineering behaviour of soil and rock), materials, tunnelling, marine and coastal engineering, water, waste management, flood management, transportation and power.

Successful apprentices will gain a BSc or BEng Civil Engineering degree and will meet the requirement to register as a professional engineer with the Engineering Council. On completion you will have fully satisfied the requirements for registration as an Incorporated Engineer (IEng) by one of the following relevant professional engineering institutions: Institution of Civil Engineers, the Institution of Structural Engineers, the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation or the Institute of Highway Engineers. This is a long period of training and throughout your degree you'll have direct access to major civil engineering projects.

### Duration

Typically 5-6 years

### Entry criteria

Candidates will typically have at least three A levels at Grade C or above, including maths and physical science or an equivalent (such as BTEC Extended Diploma with Distinction, Merit, Merit Access to HE Diploma) or will have completed a level 3 apprenticeship as a Civil Engineering Technician.

### An example of who is recruiting includes:

The following employers have recruited to this apprenticeship: Laing O'Rourke (the UK's largest privately-owned construction firm), Bouygues (a blue chip construction firm), EDF Energy (with operations spanning electricity generation and the sale of gas and electricity) and MNP (an innovative SME with more than £400 million engineering projects nationally and internationally).

# 04

## Digital and Technology Solutions Professional

### Summary

Typical job titles might include: software developer, software engineer, software tester, application specialist, business analyst, IT project manager/consultant, network engineer, cyber security analyst, database specialist, data analyst, digital media technology practitioner and systems designer. You will provide technology enabled solutions to internal and/or external customers, in a range of areas including software, business and systems analysis, cyber security, data analysis and network infrastructure.

Upon successful completion you'll achieve an industry valued degree: a BSc (Hons) in Digital & Technology Solutions. Your final degree award will also reflect the operational pathway/specialism you needed to study, e.g. BSc (Hons) in digital & technology solutions (software engineer).

### Duration

Typically 3 years.

### Entry criteria

Individual employers will set the selection criteria, but this is likely to include three A levels, including maths, although some employers will accept other relevant qualifications or experience.

### An example of who is recruiting includes:

One of the first Degree Apprenticeships to be developed, the following companies have been the early champions of this role: AstraZeneca (a multinational pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical company), BAE Systems (a multinational defence, security and aerospace company), Barclays Bank, BBC, CDL (developer and designer of software solutions for high volume retail insurance operations), Lloyds Bank, McDonald's and Thales (designer of electrical systems for the aerospace, defence, transportation and security markets).

## 05

## Healthcare Science Practitioner

### Summary

This job fulfils a dual occupational role: (1) working independently and as part of a team providing scientific and technical services within healthcare science divisions in life science, physiological science, or physical science, and (2) using expertise in applied scientific techniques to deliver patient sensitive and quality assured tests, investigations and procedures on samples, patients and equipment. You will be responsible for the analysis of a wide range of diagnostic tests that contribute to the clinical assessment of patients for the presence of disease, the monitoring of health and the effectiveness of treatments.

You will build your knowledge, clinical training and skills as you prepare to team up with other health professionals in the diagnosing and treating of disease. Specialist pathways are available to align apprentices learning with the requirements of their role. For example, within a physiological science programme are cardiac physiology, neurophysiology and, respiratory and sleep physiology specialisms and, on a life science programme, blood sciences, cellular sciences, genetic sciences or infection sciences are available.

Apprentices will achieve an accredited/approved BSc (Honours) degree in healthcare science. On completion of the apprenticeship and depending on your eligibility you can register for appropriate professional body recognition or regulation which may confer you the status of biomedical scientist or join the accredited Register of Clinical Technologists (RCT) held by the Institute of Physics and Engineering Medicine (IPEM).

### Duration

Minimum 3 years

### Entry criteria

Individual employers will set the selection criteria.

### An example of who is recruiting includes:

The job is located in a range of different settings including hospitals, primary care, public health, and private sector hospitals such as Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust.

# 06

## Manufacturing Engineer

### Summary

As a manufacturing engineer you will support the activities involved in bringing design programmes into production. This role is crucial to the launch planning and smooth delivery of new products or product refresh programmes. It focuses on developing the advanced manufacturing techniques and project management skills required to launch products on time, on cost and to the right quality. Typically, this role works closely with other engineers, functions and managers both inside their own company and supplier base.

You will undertake a range of technical training from the production of components, producing Computer Aided Design (CAD) drawings, preparing and using lathes, milling and other general or specialist machines while progressing to develop your skills in project management, managing budgets and implementing, monitoring and evaluating engineering processes. You will complete a HND or Foundation Degree first before completing a BSc (Hons) or BEng (Hons) in engineering. This is a long learning journey but on completion you will meet the professional standards of the Engineering Council for initial registration as an Engineering Technician (Eng Tech) in partnership with the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

### Duration

Typically 5-6 years.

### Entry criteria

Individual employers will set the selection criteria. In order to optimise success you will typically have 5 GCSE's equivalent to Grade C or above, including maths, English and a science, technology or engineering related subject, as well as A levels at Grade C or above in both a mathematical based subject and a science, technology, engineering or additional mathematics related subject, or 90+ credits in an Engineering BTEC at level 3.

### An example of who is recruiting includes:

Employers include: Hydraforce Hydraulics (a leading supplier of hydraulic cartridge valves and custom manifold control systems), PSM Systems Ltd (a specialist in advanced marine instrumentation software systems and solutions for marine architects, ship designers/builders and fleet owners) and Rolls-Royce UK.

## 07

## Nuclear Scientist & Nuclear Engineer

### Summary

The job is best described as a nuclear scientist and nuclear engineer having one or more of the following disciplines in engineering or science based degrees: process/chemical, mechanical, electrical, chemical, control & instrumentation, operations & management, commissioning/decommissioning, physicist, research scientist or quality engineer.

On completion, you will hold a bachelor's (Honours) degree qualification accredited by the constituent bodies of the Engineering/Science Council. One sixth of the total degree course will have a relevant nuclear based curriculum. Once fully competent at the end of the apprenticeship you will be eligible to apply for professional registration as an Incorporated Engineer (IEng) or Registered Scientist (RSci) and membership of a Professional Institute.

### Duration

Typically 3-5 years.

### Entry criteria

Individual employers will set the selection criteria. But usually you will have achieved 5 GCSE's Grade C or above<sup>1</sup> including English, maths and a science subject and have a minimum of 96 UCAS points or existing relevant level 3 qualifications. Other relevant or prior experience may also be considered.

### An example of who is recruiting includes:

AWE (providing and maintaining warheads for the Royal Navy submarines), EDF Energy (principally active in the generation and supply of electricity in the UK and in the construction of new low-carbon generation), Office for Nuclear Regulation (the UK safety regulator for the nuclear industry) and Sellafield Ltd (a nuclear fuel reprocessing and nuclear decommissioning site) amongst others.

<sup>1</sup>In all cases, where entry requirements state GCSE Grade C or above – this will also mean the grade equivalent on the new grading scale for GCSE qualifications.

## 08

## Police Constable (PC)

### Summary

This is a public service job role in one of 39 Home Office police forces in England and you will be a police officer from day one on the job. Being a PC is physically and intellectually demanding, requiring high levels of emotional intelligence, strong behavioural interpretation skills and an ability to analyse and resolve rapidly evolving events. PCs have a unique employment status, as every PC is a warranted officer, making autonomous lawful decisions including taking away a person's liberty. Competent PCs work safely and lawfully, applying their skills, knowledge and behaviours to many different and complex situations. Increasingly PCs are individually responsible for determining, applying and evaluating practice based on the best available evidence, known as 'evidence-based policing'.

You will be awarded a degree in professional policing practice. Assessment of academic and operational competence will be ongoing throughout the programme and will be carried out through a collaborative partnership between your employing police force and one or more learning providers such as a university.

### Duration

No less than 3 years.

### Entry criteria

These vary from police force to police force. You will be 18 or older, and highly likely to have achieved a level 3 qualification (or equivalent) and level 2 in English and maths (or equivalent) prior to entry.

### An example of who is recruiting includes:

Some police forces were early adopters of the police constable degree apprenticeship with recruitment at Nottinghamshire Police, Derbyshire Police and Northamptonshire Police. From 2019 most, if not all, territorial police forces in England will be recruiting to this apprenticeship.

## 09

## Registered Nurse

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### Summary

This role is found working in the public, private and voluntary sector and plays a vital role in providing, leading, coordinating and evaluating care that is compassionate, evidence based and person centred. Typical job titles include Registered Nurse (Adult), Registered Nurse (Mental Health), Registered Nurse (Learning Disability) and Registered Nurse (Child) with responsibility to provide care for people across their lifetime who could have complex and concurrent mental, physical, cognitive and behavioural care needs and for people at the end of life. You will also make an important contribution to the promotion of health, health protection and the prevention of ill health.

At the end of your training you will gain a bachelor's degree in nursing awarded by a Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) approved education provider.

### Duration

Typically 4 years

### Entry criteria

Apprentices will have their numeracy, literacy and digital skills assessed to ensure the apprentice has the necessary skills at level 2 (as a minimum) to meet the requirements of the programme.

### An example of who is recruiting includes:

Recruitment is still growing for this route into nursing, but the following organisations are an example of those who have recruited: Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group, Isle of Wight NHS Trust, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay Foundation Trust.

# 10

## Social Worker

### Summary

Social work is an international profession and a protected title. As a social worker you will work in partnership with adults, children, carers and families in a range of different settings to support and promote positive change in order to improve their wellbeing and independence. In this role you will assess, plan, implement and evaluate complex situations. As a registered social worker, you will engage in protecting individuals from harm, abuse, neglect and exploitation.

You will work within the context of relevant social work legislation to use your professional judgement and build relationships with individuals and communities, as well as with a wide range of other professionals and agencies. This is a highly regulated profession and requires an ability to work within a strict professional code of ethics. At the end of your apprenticeship you will have achieved a honours degree in social work. Completion will give you eligibility to apply to the Health & Care Professions Council (that looks after the standards of proficiency for social workers in England) Register which you must be included on before you can practice.

### Duration

No less than 3 years.

### Entry criteria

Individual employers will set the selection criteria.

### An example of who is recruiting includes:

Recruitment started mostly in 2019. The following organisations have been involved in this apprenticeship's development (among others): Lincolnshire County Council, Norfolk County Council, Peterborough City Council and Sandwell Children's Trust.

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## How do I find out more and apply?

### Top tips:

- 1 Visit: [apprenticeships.gov.uk](https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk) and [ucas.com/apprenticeships-in-the-uk](https://ucas.com/apprenticeships-in-the-uk)
- 2 If you require any support with your Find An Apprenticeship application please contact: **08000 150 400** (free from landlines and mobiles)
- 3 Email: [nationalhelpdesk@findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](mailto:nationalhelpdesk@findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)
- 4 For professional advice on making your choice, visit: [nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk](https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk) or call: **0800 100 900** (free from landlines and mobiles)
- 5 For further details on higher apprenticeships ready for delivery and in development please visit: [instituteofapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards](https://instituteofapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards)
- 6 To find out more about which employers are recruiting and who is delivering higher apprenticeships, check out university, higher education provider and employer websites
- 7 Do not hesitate to contact the employer, university or higher education provider if you're considering a Higher Apprenticeship to ask any questions you may have
- 8 The key is to do your own research, and a good point to start is to view: [university.which.co.uk/advice/choosing-a-course/is-a-higher-or-degree-apprenticeship-really-right-for-you](https://www.university.which.co.uk/advice/choosing-a-course/is-a-higher-or-degree-apprenticeship-really-right-for-you)

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## We wish you the best of luck

Prepared in partnership with the University Vocational Awards Council (UVAC). UVAC is a national membership organisation representing higher education. It exists to champion and develop higher education's role in higher level technical and professional education and training including degree apprenticeships. UVAC has more than 94 universities in membership drawn from all university types, including the Russell Group.

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