



## Degree Apprenticeships

Degree Apprenticeships provide students with the opportunity of working with an employer, being paid a full-time salary and gaining a degree (Level 6) qualification without any of the usual costs. Degree Apprenticeships continue to be offered, in spite of the Covid-19 pandemic, though the number of opportunities may be reduced.

## What should I consider?

### Be True to Yourself

Students need to consider if a degree apprenticeship is the right choice for them. Studying this way can mean getting a degree with none of the debt but apprentices need to be very focussed and willing to put in lots of hours each week. Studying for a degree and working full time takes a lot of dedication and this will be needed for somewhere between 3 and 5 years. If students would prefer to have a full-time undergraduate lifestyle then the degree apprenticeship is not going to work.

### Research

Do some initial research on companies who have vacancies. Get an idea of what is important to them and the qualities they look for in employees and reflect this when completing the application.

More detailed research on the company will be required for the interview stage. When it comes to interview it will be essential to have very detailed knowledge of the company. Who is their CEO? What are their shares worth? What is their turnover? Who are the key competitors? What is the mission strategy?

## Applications

Applying for a Degree Apprenticeship will require commitment. Successfully gaining a Degree Apprenticeship has never been an easy task. Students need to start the process early in Autumn 2021 for positions starting in Summer 2022.

Be prepared to submit lots of applications. It is important to persevere and keep applying. Applicants may have to wait some time to hear if they have got through to the next stage, some may never hear back if their application has been unsuccessful.

The process of completing an online application is lengthy and needs preparation, thought and attention to detail. Students will want their application to stand out for the right reasons not the wrong ones. Everything will need to be triple checked for spelling and grammar. Keep a copy of what has been submitted for each one.

Continued over...

## Application Stages

The number of stages varies according to the size of the company. For large multinational companies the early stages of the application process may be outsourced to another company and may consist of the following:

**Online application:** This will generally include completing an application form or uploading a CV as well as a cover letter.

**Online assessment:** Candidates successful in stage one will be directed to an online aptitude assessment.

**Phone/video interview:** Getting to this stage means that the employer is interested and wants to find out more. Candidates may be asked some follow-up questions about why they applied for the position and questions about the company.

**Assessment centre:** This method of assessing potential candidates is popular with mid to large companies. This consists of a day or half day held at a particular venue where multiple applicants are given group and individual tasks which simulate a typical work environment and are assessed on their performance throughout the day.

**Interview:** This will be an opportunity for the employer to ask some final technical and behavioural questions and is also an opportunity for you to ask questions of your own, so come prepared for both! The interviews can take place one to one, or by a panel of 2/3 people or a series of speed interviews.

### Practice, Practice, Practice.

Be prepared for the stages. Get advice from family members, teachers, careers advisers and search the internet. [The University of Kent](#) produces helpful information on application processes, CVs and interviews. While the information is intended for graduates, the advice is still applicable. See also [Student Ladder](#).

## Vacancies

Applicants should consider registering with the websites below so as they are notified of new opportunities.

[UK Gov Find an Apprenticeship](#)

[Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

[Student Ladder](#)

[Future Talent](#)

## Vacancies continued....

[Get My First Job](#)

[Not Going to Uni](#)

[Pearson College London](#)

[Rate My Apprenticeship](#)

UCAS

## Student Apprenticeships

You can also have a look at the employers on the [Fire It Up](#) booklet to see what has been available this year.

## Degree Apprenticeship Employers

The list below is a snapshot of companies who recruit degree or higher-level apprentices.

### Accountancy/Business/Finance

Aviva          Barclays          BDO          Deloitte          Ernst Young  
HSBC          KPMG          PWC          Visa          National Audit Office

### Automotive Industry

BMW          Ford ( IT Degree App.)

### Construction

Barratt Homes

### Engineering

Amey Civil and Construction Engineering, Environmental and Civil Engineering, Civil Engineering, Rail Design

BAE Systems a wide range of apprenticeships are available including Software Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Project Management, Finance, Aircraft Maintenance and Mechanical Engineering.

Balfour Beatty a wide range of apprenticeships including Civil and Mechanical Engineering, Quantity Surveying, Construction Management, Digital Engineering, IT, Data and Software Support, Health, Safety, Environmental and Sustainability.

BT a wide range of apprenticeships including Cyber Security, Engineering Services, Digital, Openreach Engineering.

EDF    MI5    Virgin Media

E:ON    GE

### Healthcare

NHS

### Information Technology Sector

Capgemini    Qinetiq    IBM    CGI    Microsoft    Network Rail

### Law

Kennedys    Eversheds Sutherland

## Degree Apprenticeship Employers continued...

### Media

Most apprenticeships are not degree-level, however they do offer very high-quality training opportunities

[BBC](#) [Channel 4](#) [SKY](#) [ITV](#) [Virgin Media](#) [Evening Standard](#) [The Telegraph](#)

See also: [My First Job in Film](#)

**©FutureSmart Careers Ltd**  
**April 2021**