

FutureSmartCareers



Prepare for an Apprenticeship in Science

If you are interested in working in science via the apprenticeship route you may want to find out more about what you can do to strengthen your application. The following will help with this.

Where can you look for an Apprenticeship?

One of the first things to do is to register with the Government apprenticeship website. This will alert you to science apprenticeships happening near you. Register [here](#).

Other national apprenticeship websites to register with include:

[Notgoingtouni](#)

[Getmyfirstjob](#)

[Ratemyapprenticeship](#)

[Career Finder](#)

[Indeed](#)

You can also register with local Colleges and Training Providers in Somerset that cover Science Apprenticeships.

[Bridgewater and Taunton College](#)

[Weston College](#)

[Skill up Somerset](#)

[University Centre Somerset \(UCS\)](#)

Who offers Science Apprenticeships?

It is also worth approaching any scientific or pharmaceutical companies, schools or universities or the [NHS](#) and asking if they are likely to take on apprentices when you are due to leave school.

What should you check for ?

What's the Level of apprenticeship?

Level 2 Intermediate, Level 3 Advanced, Level 4/5 Higher or Level 6 Degree

What are the entry requirements?

Will you need GSCE passes? How many? Or A-Levels or BTECs? Are there any grades and subjects needed?

Where is the employer's location?

How will you get there - by walking, bus, train? Will you need to move and find accommodation?

What qualifications will you gain with the apprenticeship?

For example, Laboratory Technician Level 3

What training provider or college is linked to the apprenticeship? Where are they based and how will you get there?

What will they be looking for?

Employers will look for:

- An interest in science
- Attention to detail, completing tasks well.
- Willingness to learn and train as this will never end with continuous developments in science.
- Problem-solving skills.
- A good team player and communication skills.
- Health and Safety conscious.
- Self-belief
- Good time management skills

How can I demonstrate I have the skills? How do I stand out from the crowd?

You will need an excellent CV to sell you and your skills and strengths.

For an example of a school leavers' CV see [here](#).

Look at industry websites to find out what they are discussing.

How can I prepare for interviews?

Employers will expect you to have a desire to work in science and want to learn about it.

For general advice on interviews please watch [this](#) and read these below:

[National Careers Service](#)

[Apprenticeships.gov](#)

[UCAS](#)

Be friendly and polite and remember to smile.

YouTube has lots of clips on the work of apprentices and what to expect.

Where can a career in science take you?

With experience, you could progress to the team manager or lab supervisor or specialise in complex analysis work.

Anything else you should know?

Be well prepared, start your search early, and keep a list of where you have applied to. Practice interviews. Be confident in yourself.

Have a backup plan.