
A Guide to Apprenticeships in the UK

SQA's Apprenticeship Offer

As an international leader in education and skills SQA has a strong apprenticeship offer.

SQA offer a variety of Vocational qualifications to support apprenticeship delivery. Our qualifications are based upon recognised standards and provide evidence that learners can do their jobs well. Studied in the workplace, in college or with training providers, SQA's vocational qualifications are available in many subject areas with our key sectors being

- Construction
- Creative & Cultural
- Conveyancing
- Maritime

In addition, SQA are an approved End Point Assessment Organisation for the Conveyancing apprenticeship standard.

SQA's Services Offer

As well as offering a suite of recognised qualifications to support apprenticeships, we utilise our expertise to support organisations such as, government departments, professional / industry bodies and employers with their education & skills needs.

We offer advice, design expertise and delivery capability in a host of key areas including;

- training accreditation,
- qualification design
- assessment design and development,
- assessment delivery
- standards development.

We have over 100 years experience of helping organisations across all sectors reach their potential.



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Created by SQA to help you understand the differences in apprenticeship policy across the four home nations.

	SCOTLAND	ENGLAND	WALES	Northern Ireland
Who approves Apprenticeships?	Modern Apprenticeship Group	Institute for Apprenticeships	Gov.Wales	Dept for the Economy
Who is the qualifications regulator?	SQA – Accreditation	Ofqual	Qualification Wales	CCEA
What is the Apprenticeship target?	30,000 new starts by 2020	3,000,000 new starts by 2020	100,000 starts during the current Administration	None confirmed. Approx 6000 starts 2015/16
Does the Levy apply?	Yes – 0.5% levy on total staff payroll over £3m	Yes – 0.5% levy on total staff payroll over £3m	Yes – 0.5% levy on total staff payroll over £3m	Yes – 0.5% levy on total staff payroll over £3m
What will the levy fund? How is it administered?	Apprenticeships, workforce development & pre-employment programmes. Funding allocated by SDS through formal procurement	Apprenticeships only – Digital account for Levy payers/ Funding allocation for non-levy (interim) Apprenticeship Service	Policy under development	Policy under consultation
What Levels of Apprenticeships are available?	Modern, Foundation, Graduate, (technical / professional)	Intermediate, Higher, Advanced, Graduate	Foundation, Apprenticeships, Higher Apprenticeships	Level 2, Level 3, Higher Apprenticeships
Do Frameworks or Standards apply?	Frameworks	Standards	Frameworks	Frameworks
Is End Point Assessment mandatory?	Non Mandatory	Mandatory	Non Mandatory	Non Mandatory
Does the Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers apply?	No	Yes	No	Yes
Who is the relevant funding body?	Skills Development Scotland	Education & Skills Funding Agency	Gov.Wales	Department for the Economy (DfE)
Is there a training federation supporting providers and stakeholders?	Scottish Training Federation (STF) Colleges Scotland	Association of Employment & Training Providers (AELP) Association of Colleges	National Training Federation Wales (NTFW)	N/A – Employer/Sector led
Where can I find information on the funding rates?	Skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk	The Education & Skills Funding Agency	Gov.Wales	NIDirect.gov

You can view an interactive version of this guide, including useful links, at www.sqa.org.uk/apprenticeships. Information correct as at 2/6/2017

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