

**Higher and degree
apprenticeships
earn while you learn**





Apprentice FAQs

What are they?

What are higher and degree apprenticeships?

Higher and degree apprenticeships are work-based training programmes that are designed to help you gain paid practical experience at the same time as studying for a university level qualification. You will be employed for a minimum of 30 hours per week and also attend university. You work, you earn, you learn, you progress.

What is the difference between a higher apprenticeship and a degree apprenticeship?

Higher apprenticeships include qualifications from level 4 (equivalent to the first year of a Bachelor's degree) to level 7 (equivalent to a Master's degree).

Any higher apprenticeship that includes the achievement of a full Bachelor's or Master's degree can also be classed as a degree apprenticeship.

What is the cost of a higher or degree apprenticeship?

For you as a student there is no cost to do a higher or degree apprenticeship. You will be paid as an employee of the company you're working for as well as receiving a university education that is covered by your employer and the government. You may need to consider the additional living costs such as moving away from home or commuting.

What are the benefits of doing a higher or degree apprenticeship?

Higher and degree apprenticeships allow young people and adults to earn while they learn at the highest level and progress into highly skilled occupations. If you choose to do a higher or degree apprenticeship you'll benefit from

- the potential to achieve graduate and postgraduate-level qualifications
- a salary and guaranteed job while you study
- employers are expected to offer you the chance to stay and progress in your job after the apprenticeship
- the chance to gain professional accreditation and membership

- no debt via student loans as higher apprenticeships are funded by employers and the government
- new opportunities for career progression if you're already in work
- a clear pathway to achieving your ambitions in the workplace – Statistics from the National Apprenticeships Service show that 23 per cent of apprentices surveyed were promoted within 12 months of finishing their apprenticeship.
- increased lifetime earning potential of around £150,000 (Source: University Education: Is this the best route into employment? AAT and Cebr, Feb 2013)

By doing your higher or degree apprenticeship with Sheffield Hallam University, you'll be taught by people who are experts in your academic subject, with real world experience and applied knowledge. Our courses are designed to help you bring together your experience and your study for greater impact.

You will also have the opportunity to access excellent facilities and a range of support services to help you progress.

How do I get started?

How do I become an apprentice?

If you are in education then you should apply for a job with an employer who is offering a higher or degree apprenticeship opportunity. We can help you prepare for this. We also help employers to recruit, so let us know if you want us to help you make a connection.

If you already have a job you can talk to your employer about the possibilities and if they aren't aware you can let them know what is available. We can help and will be happy to come and meet you and your employer. We can advise on eligibility for funding.

Can I apply directly to university to do a higher or degree apprenticeship?

You must be employed in order to do a higher or degree apprenticeship. If you are not yet employed for at least 30 hours per week it is crucial that you apply directly to an employer who is offering a higher or degree apprenticeship as part of their training programme.

Some of our employer partners include Nestlé for the Chartered Manager Degree Apprenticeship and JCB for the Advanced Manufacturing Engineering Higher Apprenticeship.

We can help you to find opportunities, through a matching service and recruitment events, so please get in touch.

When do I decide? Can I apply for UCAS as well?

If you can't decide which route is best for you at this stage, you can apply for both higher and degree apprenticeship job roles and full-time university courses to keep your options open until you decide. Remember that you will need an offer of employment, or need to be in employment already, to apply for a higher or degree apprenticeship. You must also make sure you have commitment from your employer to support you through the apprenticeship.

There is more information about the employers we are currently working with on our website to help you. If you are already in work, speak to your employer to find out whether they will support you to do a higher or degree apprenticeship. You and your employer can get in touch to review the options apprenticeships@shu.ac.uk

Is there a higher or degree apprenticeship for me?

Degree apprenticeships are created through partnerships of employers working with education providers like Sheffield Hallam University to create opportunities for people like you. Sheffield Hallam University is already currently offering higher and degree apprenticeships in

- construction and quantity surveying
- digital technologies
- engineering (including electrical, manufacturing, materials, mechanical and rail)
- facilities management
- health (assistant practitioner)
- management

Please visit our website to check for updates, or email apprenticeships@shu.ac.uk to get the latest developments.

What will it be like?

What will it be like to study as an apprentice?

There are many similarities with traditional full time study – the course content may be similar and you will be part of a group of learners that benefit from each other's support and the university's experts and facilities.

However, degree apprenticeships are taught a little differently. As well as being offered the knowledge and skills you'd expect from a high quality degree, Sheffield Hallam has experts in work-based learning methods to help you maximise the impact from your study and your work place – together.

Assessments can include reports, problem solving activities, presentations and in-company projects will ensure that you are able to integrate your academic study with on-the-job training.

When will I attend university?

Apprenticeships are work-based qualifications, which means that a good deal of training and assessment is done in partnership with your employer. Attendance at Sheffield Hallam University will be required for the academic award, and will usually take place through day release or in some cases attendance blocks throughout the year. This will vary depending on the specific course.

Please refer to our website for more information on the subject areas of interest to you.

What will the apprenticeship job be like?

Your employer will be required to allow you to undertake off-the-job training for 20 per cent of your time. They will agree with you and with the university, how to plan and support your development during and after your study. You, your employer and our course experts will work together to support your success. We can put you in touch with our course specialists and employers for more information.

Where will the apprentice job be based and will I need to leave home?

You will need to bear in mind that some of the employers we are working with are based nationwide. The employer you work for may need you to be flexible and you may need to consider moving from your current home-base in some cases. This is not always the case but will open more opportunities to you.

For example, some of our student apprentices work with Nestlé in their offices near Gatwick or York, coming to Sheffield for about six weeks throughout the year. However, we also work with an increasing number of local employers

How long does a higher or degree apprenticeship take?

The minimum length of an apprenticeship is one year. However, higher and degree apprenticeships at Sheffield Hallam University involve the achievement of a Foundation or Bachelor's degree and will typically take between 2 and 5 years to complete.

What are my next steps?

Visit our website to find out more information about the higher and degree apprenticeships available at Sheffield Hallam University, as well as how to apply.

shu.ac.uk/apprenticeships

You can also find out more about higher and degree apprenticeships, including opportunities throughout the UK, on the following websites

Apprentice Forward:

apprentice-forward.org.uk

Skills Made Easy:

skillsmadeeasy.org.uk/apprentices

National Apprenticeships Service:

apprenticeships.org.uk

Not Going to Uni:

notgoingtouni.co.uk/apprenticeships

The Apprenticeship Guide:

apprenticeshipguide.co.uk/higher-apprenticeships

shu.ac.uk/apprenticeships

Co-financed by



Skills Funding
Agency

Find out more

Whatever your query, our
dedicated team are here to help.

Email: apprenticeships@shu.ac.uk

Phone: **0114 225 3433**



SHUApprentice

shu.ac.uk/apprenticeships

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