

# WHAT IS A DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP?

**Degree apprenticeships are exactly what they say - an apprenticeship programme that leads to a full degree level qualification. This could be a bachelor's or master's degree, or an equivalent professional qualification.**

## **Who are they for?**

Degree apprenticeships can be for new recruits into apprenticeships (for example, those leaving school) or they can be for an existing employee who is looking to upskill or retrain in their job role.

## **How long do they take to complete?**

Degree apprenticeships will typically take between 2 - 6 years to complete, depending on the level you start at and the type. The apprentice will split their time between working and studying with a training provider and/or university.

## **WHAT LEVELS ARE THERE?**

There are various levels of apprenticeship to apply for depending on current skills and qualifications. Apprenticeships have equivalent educational levels:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Equivalent educational level</b>
<b>Higher</b>	<b>4 &amp; 5</b>	<b>Foundation degree, a Higher National Certificate (HNC), or the first year of an undergraduate degree</b>
<b>Degree</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Bachelor's degree</b>
<b>Degree</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Master's degree</b>

All apprenticeships include elements of on the job and off the job training leading to industry recognised standards or qualifications. Some Apprenticeships will require an assessment at the end of the programme to assess the apprentices ability and competence in their job role.

# HOW DO YOU FIND A DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP?

Degree apprenticeships are still relatively new and the number of vacancies is expected to increase each year. Top places to look include:

## Find an Apprenticeship

[gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](http://gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship)

This is the government website where you can set up an account to search, apply and receive alerts for different apprenticeship vacancies.

## For local vacancies in Worcestershire visit

[worcsapprenticeships.org.uk](http://worcsapprenticeships.org.uk)

## Higher & Degree Listing

[gov.uk/government/publications/higher-and-degree-apprenticeships](http://gov.uk/government/publications/higher-and-degree-apprenticeships)

Each year, a listing of higher and degree apprenticeship vacancies is published on the government website containing a wide selection of opportunities and links to apply.

## How much do they cost?

The apprentice will not be required to pay towards the cost of the training, this will be funded by the employer and/or government. The apprentice will earn a salary throughout their apprenticeship, which means they are being paid to learn and will not incur student fees.

## What happens if I don't finish the apprenticeship? Do I have to pay the fees back?

No, the apprentice will never be expected to pay back the apprenticeship training costs

## Making Connections

Research and building up your knowledge is an important part when considering an apprenticeship. It is good to speak with training providers, local employers and apprentices to find out more about what is on offer and how their programmes work.

A provider search is available on our website

[worcsapprenticeships.org.uk/business-directory](http://worcsapprenticeships.org.uk/business-directory)

Here you can search for local Worcestershire Training Providers and apply direct to them as well.

## What are the general requirements for Higher and Degree Apprenticeships?

- > Have completed an advanced apprenticeship
- > Hold a level 3 NVQ/SVQ or qualification
- > Hold a BTEC National qualification
- > Achieved 2 passes at A-Level

## Do employers value degree apprentices as highly as they value a traditional degree?

Yes! Employers really value degree apprenticeships because you will be applying what you learn immediately in the workplace and helping to introduce and suggest new ideas and approaches.

## Do apprentices get a social life?

Of course! You get the benefits of meeting new people at your workplace and through your training provider.

There are also many networks you can join as an apprentice to meet others as well as applying for an NUS Apprentice Extra Card to access fantastic discounts and benefits.

## Is a degree apprenticeship a real degree?

Yes - it is exactly the same degree that you would study full-time, except it will be studied in a different way and your apprenticeship may also include additional qualifications and/or professional accreditation.

## Do I apply to the employer or the university?

Firstly, you will need to secure an apprenticeship with an employer, and they will decide which training provider is best suited to the needs of their business. Depending on which training provider they are using, there could be additional applications or assessments that you will need to undertake.

## Search apprenticeships at [worcsapprenticeships.org.uk](http://worcsapprenticeships.org.uk)

[worcsapprenticeships.org.uk](http://worcsapprenticeships.org.uk)

[info@worcsapprenticeships.org.uk](mailto:info@worcsapprenticeships.org.uk)

0300 666 3 666

@worcsapprentice

/worcsapprenticeships