

Degree Apprenticeship - FAQs

What are degree apprenticeships?

Degree apprenticeships are work-based training programmes designed to help you gain paid experience while you study for a university-level qualification. You'll be employed for a minimum of 30 hours per week while also attending university, so you get to earn, learn and progress at the same time.

“Degree apprenticeships” may refer to qualifications from level 4 (equivalent to the first year of a Bachelor's degree) to level 7 (equivalent to a Master's degree).

What's the cost of a degree apprenticeship?

As an apprentice, there's no cost to do a degree apprenticeship. You're paid as an employee of the company you work for, and your university education is covered by your employer and the Government. You may need to consider additional living costs though, such as moving away from home or commuting.

Is this the best route into employment?

On a degree apprenticeship with Sheffield Hallam University, you'll be taught by people who are experts in your academic subject, so you'll gain real-world experience and applied knowledge. Our courses are designed to help you bring together your experience and your studies, so you can make the most of both. You'll also have access to excellent facilities and support services to help you progress.

How do I become an apprentice?

You must be employed to do a degree apprenticeship. If you aren't yet employed for at least 30 hours per week, it's crucial that you apply directly to an employer who is offering a degree apprenticeship job role. You can look for current opportunities on the Government's *Find an Apprenticeship* website.

If you already have a job, you can talk to your employer about the possibilities around degree apprenticeships. Sheffield Hallam can help, and our staff will be happy to talk with you and your employer. We can advise on eligibility for funding as well.

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

You can apply for degree apprenticeship roles and full-time university courses at the same time, to keep your options open until you decide. The UCAS system (for full-time university courses) is separate to applications for degree apprenticeships, so applying for both routes won't affect your chances on either.

Remember, you'll need a job offer, or to be employed already, to apply for a degree apprenticeship. Make sure you have a commitment from your employer to support you through the apprenticeship.

You and your employer can then get in touch to review the options by emailing business@shu.ac.uk.

Is there a degree apprenticeship for me?

Degree apprenticeships are created through partnerships: employers work with education providers like Sheffield Hallam to create opportunities for people like you. We're currently offering a range of degree apprenticeships in these subject areas:

- Building and Quantity Surveying – help to organise and deliver all types of construction projects
- Leadership and Management – gain skills to lead in a wide range of businesses and organisations
- Digital and Technology – from Cyber Security to Software Solutions
- Engineering – including Materials, Electronic and Manufacturing
- Food Technology – join an expanding sector via technology and packaging routes
- Policing – train to be a Police Constable with South Yorkshire Police
- Health and Social Care – including Physiotherapy and Healthcare Science

What will it be like to study as an apprentice?

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

Degree apprenticeships are taught differently though. As well as being offered the knowledge and skills you'd expect from a degree, we have experts in work-based learning to help you maximise the impact from your study and workplace. Assessments can include reports, problem-solving activities, presentations and in-company projects, all helping you to integrate academic study with on-the-job training.

When will I attend university?

A good deal of training and assessment is done in partnership with your employer. Attendance at Sheffield Hallam University is required for the academic award, and usually takes place through "day-release" teaching, or in some cases "blocks" of study throughout the year.

What will the apprenticeship job be like?

Your employer must allow you to undertake off-the job training for 20% of your time. They'll agree with you and the university how to plan and support your development during and after your study. You, your employer and Sheffield Hallam's course experts will work together to support your success.

Where will the apprentice job be based, and will I need to move away from home?

Some employers Sheffield Hallam works with are based nationwide. The employer you work for may need you to be flexible, and in some cases you may need to consider moving from your current location. This isn't always the case but being flexible will open more opportunities to you.

How long does a degree apprenticeship take?

The minimum length of an apprenticeship is one year, but degree apprenticeships at Sheffield Hallam normally take 2 - 5 years to complete.