

Degree Apprenticeships

All apprenticeships include elements of on-the-job and off-the-job training, leading to industry recognised standards or qualifications. Some also require an assessment at the end of the programme, to confirm the apprentice's ability and competence in their job role.

Name	Level	Equivalent educational level
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at 4 - 9
Advanced	3	2 A level passes/Level 3 Diploma/International Baccalaureate
Higher	4 and 5	Higher National Certificate/Higher National Diploma/Foundation Degree
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or Masters Degree

When do candidates apply for degree apprenticeships?

You can apply during your final year of college/sixth form, but if you choose to gain more work experience or take a gap year, you can still apply for a degree apprenticeship after that.

What qualifications do candidates need to access a degree apprenticeship?

L6 degree apprenticeships will normally ask for minimum grades from a candidate's A levels/Level 3 BTECs, or equivalent qualifications. See Sheffield Hallam's Apprenticeships Hub at www.shu.ac.uk/hda for examples of entry requirements.

How does the application process work?

Most apprenticeship roles are advertised on the Government's website (Google "find an apprenticeship". Candidates must complete an application form and usually need to succeed in some form of interview with their potential employer.

How much does it cost to get a degree as an apprentice?

There are **no tuition fees** for people who study their degree as an apprentice. The cost is covered by the Government's Apprentice Levy, which means the apprentice does not require Student Finance for tuition fee or maintenance loans.

How much do apprentices earn?

At Sheffield Hallam, our degree apprentices usually start on a salary of at least £12,000+ and often earn more as they progress through their programme. Wages can vary depending on the employer/degree studied (some apprentices begin on £18,000+).

What is the balance of work and study?

Degree apprentices on Sheffield Hallam courses spend about 80% of their time on their day job. The rest is spent on "off-the-job training", which includes time studying at university. This arrangement can vary from job to job: some apprentices spend one day a week at SHU (day release), while others attend SHU every few weeks for a longer period of time (block release).

Are apprenticeship jobs always near to the training provider?

Many of Sheffield Hallam's apprenticeship partners are based in and around Sheffield, so apprentices can choose to live locally. Some jobs are with companies which are further away (e.g. York; Reading). In these cases, students need to consider what would work best in terms of accommodation for their job and their study release at SHU. Support is available from SHU's Accommodation Services Team.

Is a job guaranteed when the apprenticeship ends?

It's expected that an apprentice will continue to work with their employer after they complete their apprenticeship, as the knowledge they have gained will benefit both parties. If for any reason this does not happen, a successful apprentice will have a degree and several years' experience as they look for opportunities elsewhere.

For more information ...

- www.shu.ac.uk/hda
- www.apprenticeships.gov.uk

Worth noting ...

- Apprenticeship vacancies can open up at any time, so it's vital to check online regularly for jobs which might be of interest.
- Depending on an apprentice's job/study programme, they may have a very different "student experience" to a full-time undergraduate.
- This is not an easy option. Students need commitment, organisation and a strong work ethic to consistently manage their job and university workload.
- That said, apprentices can discuss their experience in meetings with learning coaches, and access support in various areas from SHU.
- Some candidates secure their job with an employer in advance, and then approach SHU to match that job to a degree apprenticeship.