Consultant (Professional) Quantity Surveyor Degree Apprenticeship

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Overview

The Consultant (Professional) Quantity Surveyor Degree Apprenticeship has been developed as a pathway within the Chartered Surveyor Degree Apprenticeship Standard by a trailblazer group of employers, higher education providers and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS).

The apprenticeship provides an alternative to graduate recruitment and the opportunity to ‘grow your own’ talent. It includes a combination of work-based learning, practical application and Assessment of Professional Competence (APC), which leads to a BSc (Honours) Quantity Surveying degree and professional recognition through the award of Chartered Member status with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (MRICS).

Key drivers

• In October 2015 the RICS UK Construction Market Survey showed that the country’s skills shortage has reached its highest levels since the survey was launched 18 years ago – with 64 per cent of respondents highlighting a shortage of quantity surveyors.

• The 2015 Housebuilding Report by property agent Knight Frank also showed that 59 per cent of developers and house builders believe that the shortage of quantity surveyors is hampering the delivery of housebuilding projects.

• According to the latest Construction Skills Network Industry Insights research, the UK construction industry will need an additional 980 surveyors (which includes quantity surveyors) every year for the period 2016–2020.

• The introduction of the apprenticeship levy in April 2017 for all large organisations.

Benefits for employers

• The Consultant (Professional) Quantity Surveyor Degree Apprenticeship fosters the skills, creativity and loyalty employers need for employees to commit themselves to an organisation and drive it onto the next level.

• Get work-ready graduate calibre employees, embedded within your organisation, who truly understand your business and bring fresh perspectives and ideas.

• Attract and retain the best young talent, supporting the youth employment agenda.

• Enhance your learning and development strategy by establishing a clear progression route for aspiring and established quantity surveyors.

• A cost effective way of ensuring that sponsored employees gain the necessary knowledge and skills to become fully qualified and professionally accredited.

• The principles, techniques and practical skills learned at university are further developed in the workplace, which develops employees’ confidence and professional competence.

• Generate a return on investment through accelerated development and increased commitment.

• Projects are negotiated with employers to ensure they benefit all parties.

How we can help you

• Sheffield Hallam University’s Department of Natural and Built Environment has a strong history of collaboration with employers to deliver work-focussed education and training, and is now ready to help you capitalise on degree apprenticeships.

• You will have access to our cutting-edge facilities and benefit from the world-class expertise of our staff.

• We can help you to navigate the apprenticeship system, including using the new Digital Apprenticeship Service and claiming additional funding incentives where they apply.

• As experts in student recruitment, we can support you to attract new young apprentices, developing your future talent pipeline, as well as increasing the capacity of your existing employees.

Duration

The programme is usually delivered over five years.

Delivery method

Learners attend University on day-release, to be taught alongside part-time and full-time students. However there will be additional workshops and/or industry visits for apprentices and employers, to assist with preparation for professional qualifications. With sufficient demand from one or a small group of employers, we could offer a bespoke delivery model enabling apprentices to attend from further afield. Please contact us to discuss your requirements.
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### Awards
The BSc (Honours) Quantity Surveying is an innovative work-based learning solution that is designed to meet the needs of the employer and the learner, putting them at the heart of the programme. Alongside core topic areas, the programme allows for completion of major in-company projects designed to deliver return on investment for the employing organisation. Module content for the BSc (Honours) Quantity Surveying is shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Modules</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 4</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Introduction to the Built Environment for Professionals</td>
<td>An introduction to the roles of the different disciplines within quantity surveying, professional bodies and academic practices. A work-based learning module which begins preparation for the professional body end-point assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 4</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Understanding Building Technology</td>
<td>An introduction to construction technology, focussing on domestic and small-scale developments. This requires the student to be able to identify, describe and converse with the terminology of building.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 4</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Materials Science</td>
<td>Lab-based work where common construction materials are tested and the results recorded and analysed; introduces aspects of quality management to construction.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 5</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Introduction to Measurement</td>
<td>An introduction to the purpose and practice of measurement to create the foundations for more detailed building and civil engineering measurement over the rest of the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 5</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Law and Economics for the Built Environment</td>
<td>The principles behind the economy and the laws governing our industry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 5</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Development Project</td>
<td>A project based on an existing case study building and a proposed development. Students are required to assimilate knowledge from other modules to develop a design proposal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 5</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Contractual procedures</td>
<td>Analysing and evaluating various procurement strategies and tendering procedures available, and reviewing Standard Forms of Contract.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 5</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Measurement of Building Works</td>
<td>An in-depth understanding of measuring building works across a broad cross section of construction elements in line with NRM2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 5</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Evaluating Construction Technology</td>
<td>A more in depth view of the technology and techniques of building. This includes a research project of the student’s choice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 5</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Health and Safety at Work</td>
<td>Essential material regarding health and safety; the legislation and implications of health and safety in modern practise.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 6</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Project Collaboration in Professional Practice</td>
<td>A multi-disciplinary approach to construction to encourage the development of team working skills, leadership and management, and the ethos of Building Information Modelling (BIM) collaboration. The module focuses on a case study development in the workplace.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 6</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Cost management</td>
<td>Essential knowledge to apply construction costing techniques within the design and construction stages of a project, including estimating, cost planning, cost modelling and costing risk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 6</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Quantity Surveying Practice and Contract Management</td>
<td>Involves critical analysis and evaluation of complex contractual/contract administration, including dispute resolution issues and proposing effective solutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 6</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Strategic Facilities Management</td>
<td>Students study the implications of construction on a building’s use and management. This requires analysis of various business methodologies, such as outsourcing versus in-house.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 6</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Quantity Surveying Professional Studies</td>
<td>A chance to reflect upon key thematic issues encountered within the profession by drawing on work experiences. Additionally time will be spent on building advanced costing skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 6</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Advanced Measurement</td>
<td>Consideration of measurement using NRM2 and CESMM4, as well as software packages to carry out detailed measurement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 6</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>Students are able to devise and investigate a research question related to the workplace. This is a double module, assessed through written submissions and verbal interrogation reflecting higher levels of research and study.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Incorporates work-based learning undertaken in the workplace

All modules are 20 credit modules, except the dissertation, which is a double module undertaken in the final year of the programme. The availability of the course is subject to a minimum student number requirement.
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**Course description**

Course content is aligned to the Chartered Surveyor Degree Apprenticeship Standard Consultant (Professional) Quantity Surveyor pathway.

The course prepares apprentices for professional careers in the construction industry by providing the technical knowledge, initiative and interpersonal skills the industry demands. The course is intended to take advantage of learners’ employment to develop their potential and utilise their existing knowledge. Working experiences will feed into a number of modules and the theoretical stance taught academically should be applicable to the learner’s working environment. It is expected that an apprentice will be able to take the knowledge gained at Sheffield Hallam University and make use of it in the workplace.

Our courses are a mixture of lectures, class-based seminars, practical work and site visits. Learners are expected to engage with the subject matter, and question staff and each other. Full-time, part-time and apprenticeship students will be mixed in different activities and support each other throughout.

There is an average of three hours additional study per hour of attendance, which means that to achieve their potential, apprentices need to spend sufficient time completing coursework and preparing for exams.

Our teaching staff have extensive industry experience from across the range of professional disciplines associated with the construction industry. We invite visiting lecturers and employers from consultancy companies and large contractors to reinforce the practical nature of the course.

**Assessment**

The degree award will incorporate a mix of innovative and traditional assessment types to monitor and reward progress. Assessments will test attributes relevant for successful performance in the workplace, enabling learners to integrate academic learning and on-the-job training.

Assessments can include management and technical reports, research investigations into practice, problem solving activities, presentations, self, peer and co-assessment and in-company projects.

This unique approach to assessment of the degree enables each learner to contextualise and tailor their learning to their organisation and sector.

**End-point assessment**

Ultimately the end-point assessment will check that the employee is ready to join the profession with full occupational competence. The end-point assessment for the Chartered Surveyor Degree Apprenticeship is the RICS APC final assessment. The University will work with employers to help the learner to prepare for the end-point assessment.

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**Professional recognition**

The Consultant (Professional) Quantity Surveyor Degree Apprenticeship at Sheffield Hallam University is accredited by RICS and provides a distinctive pathway to full professional membership and Chartered Member status (MRICS).

**Options for larger employers**

Where an organisation has 15 or more learners, Sheffield Hallam University can work with you to co-create tailored content to meet individual business needs.

**Entry requirements**

The Consultant (Professional) Quantity Surveyor Degree Apprenticeship is suitable for both new recruits (eg school leavers entering into the industry) and for developing existing or aspiring quantity surveyors already in employment, who do not have a relevant degree.

For new recruits, the usual entry requirements are:

- GCSE (or equivalent) mathematics and English language at grade C or grade 4, or above
- Plus one of the following:
  - 112 UCAS points including at least 64 points from two A levels or equivalent BTEC National qualifications. AS levels may count towards these points but key skills qualifications do not. We accept general studies.
  - 96 UCAS points from three A levels or equivalent BTEC National qualifications. We accept general studies.
  - other equivalent qualifications, eg Access, Foundation Course

Please note that this information is based on the new UCAS tariff points system for courses starting from September 2017. This is significantly different to the current points system and uses an alternative method of calculation. You can find information about these changes on the UCAS website (www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/entry-requirements/tariff/new-tariff-2017) and use the UCAS tariff calculator to work out your points.

Advanced entry directly into year three of the course may be possible if you hold a relevant construction-related HNC/HND or higher qualification. Please contact us to discuss your options.

For those already in employment, the degree apprenticeship provides access to development opportunities for applicants who may already have practical experience but wish to improve their theoretical understanding, want to develop their skills further, and obtain an academic qualification and professional recognition.

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**Fees**

Typically £27000 per learner, however tailored programmes may vary depending on requirements.

Government funding is currently available to cover up to two-thirds of training costs (funding rules apply) and additional incentive payments are available. Please visit the Skills Funding Agency website www.gov.uk/guidance/sfa-funding-rules for more details.

However, for learners who start their apprenticeship after April 2017 the available funding will be set by the government’s rules on the apprenticeship levy and operated under the proposed Digital Apprenticeship Service.

More information on the new apprenticeship funding arrangements, including how the levy will work, can be found on the Department for Education website www.gov.uk/government/publications/apprenticeship-levy-how-it-will-work

**Government now proposes that**

- levy paying employers with wage bills above £3,000,000 per annum will use their levy payments and a 10% government top-up to pay for apprenticeship course fees and any end-point assessment up to the funding cap
- non-levy paying employers (below the wage–bill threshold) may access government funding of 90% of the course fees (or 100% for learners below the age of 19 at the start of the course for small employers with less than 50 staff) up to the funding cap

As a leading provider of higher and degree apprenticeships, Sheffield Hallam University is working closely with government to understand the implications of these reforms and to maximise the benefits of our apprenticeship programmes for both individuals and businesses.

Please contact us to find out more and to get started.
“Staff at the University have worked collaboratively with us from the outset, ensuring the programme meets our business requirements and the needs of the industry as a whole.

What seemed like a challenging project at the start has turned out to be a straightforward and seamless journey due to the professionalism and expertise of University staff.”

Suzie Flynn, graduate and future talent development manager, Barratt Developments

Find out more

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

Email: apprenticeships@shu.ac.uk
Phone: 0114 225 3433

shu.ac.uk/apprenticeships

All information is correct at the time of print—October 2016.