

Who are Foundation Apprenticeships for (eligibility)

- Individuals aged between 16 and 21 years old (or 15 years of age if the apprentice's birthday is between the last Friday of June and 31 August); or
- Individuals aged between 22 and 24 years old who have either an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan provided by their local authority and/or have been, or are, in the care of their local authority: or
- Individuals aged between 22 and 24 years old who are either a prisoner or a prison leaver.

Who can deliver Foundation Apprenticeships, how long are they, and what's their status?

- Available to providers on the Apprenticeship Provider and Assessment Register (APAR).
- The current minimum duration is 8 months.
- Foundation apprentices have to be employed either directly by an employer or through an approved Flexi-Job Apprenticeship Agency (FJAA).

What Foundation Apprenticeships are due to be available from August 2025, and what are their funding bands?

- **Construction Sector:**
Building service engineering £4,000
Finishing trades £4,000
Onsite trades £4,000
- **Digital Sector:**
Hardware, network and infrastructure £4,000
Software and data £4,000
- **Other Sectors:**
Engineering and manufacturing £4,500
Health and social care £3,000

Standards and Assessment Plans can be found here (search by Apprenticeship Type): [Apprenticeship search / Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education](#)

Maths and English Requirements

- Where the apprentice is aged 16-18, unless they have an exemption, they must study towards maths and English (55 GLH per qualification), but are not required to take the assessment(s) before completing their foundation apprenticeship, but where appropriate, can still do so.
- Where the apprentice is aged 19-24, then maths and English remain optional.

Incentive Payments

- **Providers and Employers:** 16-18 foundation apprentices are subject to an additional £1k payment. Paid in two equal instalments of £500 at 90 days and 242 days if still on the programme.
- **Employers:** Additional employer recruit and retain incentive: £2k per foundation apprentice, paid in three instalments, 90 days (£667), 242 days (£667). The remaining instalment (£666) is payable if the individual starts a new apprenticeship within 6 months of their completion date and remains with the same employer.
- **Apprentices:** Eligible foundation apprentices will also receive the 3k care leavers' bursary, split as follows:
 - 60 days after the apprentice's learning start date, £1k will be paid if the apprentice is still undertaking their apprenticeship.
 - 120 days after the apprentice's learning start date, £1k will be paid if the apprentice is still undertaking their apprenticeship.
 - Where the apprentice is on a foundation apprenticeship, this final £1k payment will be generated 242 days after the apprentice's learning start date.