

IT Professional

What is an Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is a mix of real work and learning. Apprentices earn a wage and gain experience whilst working towards a number of qualifications. An Apprenticeship follows a Level 2 programme and can lead onto an Advanced Apprenticeship which is a Level 3 programme.

Overview

This Apprenticeship covers work in a broad range of digital technologies that help people use and share information, such as mobile phones, computers, broadband provision, and satellite communications.

The IT industry is predicted to grow at a rate of 2.5% per year. The Telecoms industry however is likely to grow at a lower rate at 0.3% per year, leading to growth of 1.9% per year for the IT and Telecoms industry combined. The industry is looking for 142,000 new workers over the next three years, so the career prospects are excellent.

The Telecoms industry is one of the fastest changing in the UK as new technologies are being explored and developed. There are 8,500 telecoms manufacturing and services establishments in Great Britain employing 278,000 people, including: 35,000 telecoms professionals. In addition, there are 21,000 Telecoms Engineers and Line repairers/Cable Jointers working outside the IT and Telecoms industry.

Starting salary (once qualified) range from £12,000 - £14,000 (Level 2) £15,000 - £18,000 (Level 3).

Example Job Roles as an Apprentice

- ICT Operations Technicians
- I.T User Support
- Database Assistants and Clerks

Apprenticeship Framework

There are a number of elements to each Apprenticeship and this is called the framework. Each Apprenticeship framework has three main strands:

- Competence based element
- Technical element
- Skills element

The three strands are sometimes accompanied by additional qualifications to give the most relevant skills and knowledge required for the job, these are broken down as follows:

Competence Element

Apprenticeship - Level 2 Diploma in ICT Professional Competence

Advanced - Level 3 Diploma for IT Practitioners

Technical Element

Apprenticeship - Level 2 Certificate in IT Systems & Principles

Advanced - Level 3 Certificate in IT Systems & Principles

Skills Element

Apprenticeship - Key or Functional Skills in Application of Number Level 1 + Communication Level 1

Advanced - Key or Functional Skills in Application of Number Level 2 + Communication Level 2

Other Additional Study

Employment Rights and Responsibilities

Apprenticeships Available

- Apprenticeship Level 2 - on completion this is equivalent to 5 A* - C grade GCSE's
- Advanced Apprenticeship Level 3 - on completion this is equivalent to 2 A-levels

Progression Routes

- Advanced Apprenticeship

Already Employed?

Are you currently employed but not working towards qualifications? Speak to your employer about converting to an Apprenticeship and ask them to contact us on:

Email: apprenticeships@newcollege.ac.uk

Website: www.newcollege.ac.uk and www.fastforwardonline.net

Tel No: (01793) 755520

Visit www.apprenticeships.org.uk (National Apprenticeship Service)