



## **Apprenticeships 2019**

The government has made several updates and reforms regarding apprenticeships this year.

### Apprenticeship starts

The Department for Education statistics on Apprenticeships and levy published in May 2019 show that: There have been 285,000 apprenticeship starts reported to date between August 2018 and March 2019 for the 2018/19 academic year. This compares to 261,200 reported in the equivalent period in 2017/18, 362,400 in 2016/17 and 346,300 in 2015/16. Of the 285,000 apprenticeship starts reported so far in 2018/19, 61.0 per cent (173,900) were on apprenticeship standards.

### Apprenticeship standards

Apprenticeship standards are new high-quality employer-designed apprenticeships. 43.6 per cent of all apprenticeship starts in 2017/18 were standards; in 2016/17 this was 5 per cent. Up to the end of the 2017/18 academic year, there have been 193,100 starts and 3,000 achievements on apprenticeship standards since September 2014. The government has committed to all apprenticeship starts being on standards by the start of the 2020/21 academic year, at which point all apprenticeship frameworks will be withdrawn.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/804361/Apprenticeship-and-levy-statistics-May2019-main-text.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/804361/Apprenticeship-and-levy-statistics-May2019-main-text.pdf)

### Apprenticeship participation

A new section describing apprenticeship participation (since 2015/16) by learning difficulty and/or disability has been added.

In the last three full academic years dyslexia has been the most reported primary learning difficulty or disability with 3.3, 3.7 and 3.9 per cent of participating apprentices reporting this in 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 respectively. For the 2017/18 academic year, 5.0 per cent of apprentices under 19 reported themselves as dyslexic, compared to 4.4 per cent of 19-24 year olds and 3.0 per cent of over 25s. In that year the proportion of apprentices reporting themselves as dyslexic was highest at the

intermediate level (level 2) at 4.6 per cent, compared to 3.6 per cent at advanced level (level 3) and 2.3 per cent at higher level (level 4+).

For further data on apprenticeship participation breakdowns by learning difficulty or disability, learner age and apprenticeship level please see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fe-data-library-further-education-and-skills>

### Higher level apprenticeships

In 2017/18, there were 48,150 higher level (level 4+) apprenticeship starts, compared to just 3,700 in 2011/12. Between 2015/16 and 2016/17 higher level starts increased 34.7 per cent from 27,160 to 36,570. Between 2016/17 and 2017/18 the higher level starts rose 31.7 per cent to 48,150. In contrast, both intermediate (level 2) apprenticeships and advanced (level 3) decreased between 2016/17 and 2017/18 by 38.1 per cent and 15.9 per cent, respectively.

### Apprenticeship levy

Small- to -medium sized business who want to employ an apprentice can now benefit from increased government support, with the rate of government 'co-investment' increasing from 90% to 95%. This also applies to larger employers who pay the apprenticeship levy and want to invest more in apprenticeship training than they hold in their apprenticeship service account.

Employers who do not pay the levy, and those who want to invest more in apprenticeship training than they have available in their levy accounts, benefit from significant government funding to support their commitment to apprenticeships. These employers have to make a financial contribution, a 'co-investment', alongside this government funding. All co-investment payments are made directly to the training provider.

From 1 April 2019 the rate of co-investment will be reduced to 5% for all new apprenticeship starts, with government funding of 95% provided to cover the remaining costs.

Transfers From 1 April 2019 levy paying employers wishing to support apprenticeships in other businesses, can transfer up to 25% of the annual funding in their apprenticeship service account. Before setting up a transfer the organisation needs to ensure that the annual 25% transfer allowance is sufficient to cover the annual cost of an apprenticeship standard

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/788312/Apprenticeship\\_funding\\_in\\_England\\_from\\_April\\_2019.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/788312/Apprenticeship_funding_in_England_from_April_2019.pdf)

## **T Levels**

T Levels are new courses coming in September 2020, which will follow GCSEs and will be equivalent to 3 A Levels. These 2-year courses have been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work.

T Levels will offer students a mixture of classroom learning and 'on-the-job' experience during an industry placement of at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days). They will provide the knowledge and experience needed to open the door into skilled employment, further study or a higher apprenticeship.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introduction-of-t-levels/introduction-of-t-levels>

## **Career Development Professionals**

The Higher Apprenticeship Standard and End Point Assessment for Career Development Professionals has been approved and signed off by the Institute for Apprenticeships. For more information, go to:

<https://www.thecdi.net/Higher-Apprenticeship-Standard>

## **Further information:**

<https://www.gov.uk/topic/further-education-skills/apprenticeships>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apprenticeship-funding-rules>

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/795249/Apprenticeships\\_technical\\_funding\\_guide\\_2019\\_to\\_2020\\_V1\\_April2019.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/795249/Apprenticeships_technical_funding_guide_2019_to_2020_V1_April2019.pdf)