



**Skills
Development
Scotland**

FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIPS GET A HEAD START IN YOUR CAREER

Work on real projects with some of
Scotland's biggest and best employers.

Monisha

Financial Services,
Barclays



Sarah

Foundation Apprentice,
Social Services Children
and Young People

GET OUT OF THE CLASSROOM AND GET A REAL TASTE OF WORK

You can do a Foundation Apprenticeship over two years, usually starting in fifth year alongside your other subjects – it counts as one of your subject choices.

The difference is you spend time away from school, at college and with an employer. So you get real, practical work experience.

- you'll work on real projects with real employers – some of Scotland's biggest and well known organisations are involved, including: Barclays, Network Rail and the NHS
- gain a qualification recognised by industry employers – set at SCQF level 6 (same level of learning as a Higher)
- step into an exciting and growing industry that needs skilled young people
- meet people from other schools, college and the workplace
- take on more responsibility as a work colleague and team member.

A Foundation Apprenticeship lets you try out a different way to learn – out of the classroom and into a real workplace. It's a chance to try a career out – so you can decide if it's right for you.

OPEN UP YOUR OPTIONS AFTER SCHOOL

Whatever you want to do next a Foundation Apprenticeship can give you a head start.



Thinking of going straight into work?

With a Foundation Apprenticeship you'll learn skills like timekeeping, problem solving, communication and team work. So no matter what job you want to do, you'll have the experience employers are looking for.

Develop useful industry contacts, extending your network, helping you strengthen your job application.



You could gain **accelerated entry onto a Modern Apprenticeship.**

Because you've already completed a Foundation Apprenticeship at school, if you want to go on to complete a Modern Apprenticeship in the same subject it'll take less time.

Modern Apprenticeships are all about learning while you work – and earning at the same time. From day one you'll have a real job with real pay, get the skills and experience employers value, and work towards an industry-recognised qualification.



Graduate Level Apprenticeships are a new way to study up to Master's Degree level while in a job. The majority of learning happens in your employer's workplace, and this is supplemented by time spent at university or college during the work week.

A Foundation Apprenticeship is a good way to see if this style of learning works for you. It also offers a pathway onto a Graduate Level Apprenticeship.



Thinking about going to college or uni?

Foundation Apprenticeships are recognised by many colleges and universities. And it looks fantastic on your UCAS or college application – helping your application stand out from the crowd.



To find out where a Foundation Apprenticeship could take you visit [apprenticeships.scot/foundation](https://www.apprenticeships.scot/foundation)

TYPES OF FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIPS

Foundation Apprenticeships are available in a wide range of subjects – all in growing sectors with good career opportunities:

- Business Skills
- Civil Engineering
- Creative and Digital Media
- Engineering
- Financial Services
- Hardware and System Support
- Laboratory Skills
- Social Services Children and Young People
- Social Services and Healthcare
- Software Development



Business Skills

Business Skills is about knowing what makes a company successful. That could be managing people, developing strategy, making sales, organising projects or understanding customers. It's the core tasks that make businesses work.

So, if you like ICT, business management and working with people, a career in business might be for you. There are opportunities for school leavers, as well as university graduates, in a wide variety of jobs and more skilled people are needed.



Civil Engineering

Our towns and cities are designed and built by civil engineers. They plan airports based on wind speed and noise pollution. They come up with solutions for cyclists and cars to safely share the road.

They create everything around us, from our tallest buildings, to canals, bridges, roads and motorways, and even electricity networks.

Enjoy design and technology, physics or maths, and computing? Then a career in civil engineering could be for you. The sector needs more skilled people so there are lots of opportunities.



Creative and Digital Media

Does working in film, TV, radio, publishing, or on computer games and online media appeal? Over 97,000 people work in Scotland's creative industries. There's a wide variety of jobs to choose from and skilled people are in demand.

If you like the idea of combining creative thinking with technical skills, design and storytelling, why not explore a career in creative and digital media?



Engineering

What is engineering? The short answer is: everything around you. Engineers help create everything from milk cartons, to aeroplanes, wind turbines to trains. They find new and better ways to solve problems.

Wages in the sector are well above the national average. If you're a fan of maths, design and technology, physics or chemistry and computing, then a career in engineering could be for you.



Laboratory Skills

Some of humankind's biggest advancements happen in a lab. From the invention of antibiotics, cancer treatments to gene therapy, science has changed our world. In Scotland over 19,000 people work in the life sciences sector – working for universities, schools, colleges, industry and NHS. There's a wide variety of jobs to choose from and more skilled people are needed.

If you like science, have a curious mind and an eye for detail a career in a lab might be for you. You would do tests, sampling and support scientists and their research.



Social Services Children and Young People

Every child deserves the best start in life, and you can make sure this happens. If you enjoy working with young people, making sure they are healthy and happy and seeing them play, learn and develop confidence this Foundation Apprenticeship could be for you.

There's a big demand for skilled people in the sector, meaning there are lots of job opportunities and great progression routes.



Financial Services

Financial Services is big business. From banking and insurance, to accountancy and credit unions, it's about managing the money that keeps everything else ticking along.

In Scotland over 86,000 people work in the financial services sector. There are opportunities for school leavers as well as university graduates, in a wide variety of jobs, and salaries are well above the national average.



Hardware and System Support

Every business in the country depends on technology. That's why hardware and system support staff are vital. There are a wide variety of jobs to choose from and the industry needs more skilled people.

You could find and fix problems with people's computers and IT equipment. Set up and test new equipment to make sure it works. Help explain problems and solutions to non-technical users. Sound interesting? A career in hardware and system support could be for you.



Social Services and Healthcare

Over 400,000 people work in social services and healthcare in Scotland – caring for people when they need it most. Whether it's helping an older person to get ready in the morning, to providing nursing and medical care in a hospital setting, a career in the social services and healthcare sector is as vital as it is rewarding.

Up for the challenge? A Foundation Apprenticeship in Social Services could set you on the right track. All Social Work degrees in Scotland accept a Foundation Apprenticeship in Social Services and Healthcare for entry.



Software Development

Software development is behind every app you use, every computer game you play. It can include databases, virtual reality, games design, cyber security – and much more. Where it goes next is up to you.

11,000 new digital technologies job opportunities are anticipated each year until 2020 – there's a wide variety of jobs to choose from and the average wage is well above the national average. So if you're a creative thinker, with a knack for solving problems and seeing opportunities, a career in software development might be for you.

The Foundation Apprenticeship programme is still expanding and is matched to regional demand. To find out what's available where you live visit apprenticeships.scot/foundation



Connor

Engineering,
West Lothian Council

WHAT'S IT REALLY LIKE?

A Foundation Apprenticeship provides the best of both worlds while you're still at school – giving you the skills employers want and the experience you need to get a head start in your career.

There's no such thing as an average week for a Foundation Apprentice. Normally in year one you'll spend one day or two half-days a week out of school at college and with employers. And in year two, you'll spend more time with an employer, putting into practice the skills you've learned at school and college.

But don't just take it from us – you can hear what Foundation Apprentices say at apprenticeships.scot/foundation

"I would recommend Foundation Apprenticeships to anyone on the planet. It is definitely the best thing that's ever happened to me, definitely the reason I am doing what I am today. It is definitely worth your while."
Connor

LEARN THE SKILLS YOU NEED FOR THE FUTURE, WHILE YOU'RE STILL AT SCHOOL

“It was such an eye opener.
After the very first day I thought
this is exactly what I want to
do and where I want to be,
which seems unbelievable as
it wasn't something I had even
considered until then.”
Monisha

▶ Watch Monisha's story at
apprenticeships.scot/monisha

Find out more:

- ▶ apprenticeships.scot/foundation
- ▶ Talk to your guidance teacher
or Careers Adviser in school
- ▶ Call Skills Development Scotland
on 0800 917 8000
- ▶ Follow us at @apprentice_scot



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