

# IT'S TIME TO MAKE IT HAPPEN



**TODAY IS THE DAY  
YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN:  
KICK-START YOUR CAREER  
AND BE THE PERSON YOU  
WANT TO BE**

## **BECOME AN APPRENTICE**

An Apprenticeship is a job so you will be a new or existing employee starting a new position, in a Northern Ireland-based or UK National company with operations in Northern Ireland, working with experienced staff to learn and develop your skills.

An apprenticeship can give you the training and qualifications you need to help you get ahead in your chosen career.

The Apprenticeship programmes offer training across a wide range of occupational areas, to people aged 16 and over.



## **FINDING AN EMPLOYER**

Finding someone to employ you as an apprentice is really like finding any other job. You can, for example:

- ▶ Search for apprenticeship opportunities
- ▶ Contact employers or an apprenticeship training provider
- ▶ Look for vacancies on employer or recruitment websites
- ▶ Contact the Careers Service
- ▶ Contact your local Jobs and Benefits office or search JobApplyNI

# WANT TO UPSKILL & EARN?



## TYPES OF APPRENTICESHIPS

There are two apprenticeship programmes funded by the Department for the Economy (DfE) available to individuals aged 16 and over:

- ▶ ApprenticeshipsNI - Level 2 and 3
- ▶ Higher Level Apprenticeships (HLAs) – Level 4 to Level 7

With ApprenticeshipsNI you can either progress from Level 2 to Level 3 or go straight to Level 3, depending on your ability and the qualifications you already have. It usually takes between two and four years to complete.

An Apprentice is in paid employment from day one and follows a national training framework which leads to the attainment of industry approved competence and knowledge based qualifications, at Level 2 or 3, in conjunction with Essential Skills qualifications (where appropriate).

HLAs offer qualifications from Level 4 upwards and will take a minimum of two years to complete. Apprenticeship levels are equivalent to:

- ▶ Level 2 (5 GCSEs)
- ▶ Level 3 (2 A Levels)
- ▶ Levels 4 and 5 (Foundation degree)
- ▶ Levels 6 and above (Bachelor or Master's degree)

Currently there are over 120 Level 2/3 ApprenticeshipsNI frameworks and over 70 HLA qualifications to choose from including:

- ▶ Agriculture and Agri-food
- ▶ Manufacture
- ▶ Construction
- ▶ Electro-Technical
- ▶ Engineering
- ▶ Financial Services
- ▶ Health & Social Care
- ▶ Hospitality
- ▶ ICT & Digital
- ▶ Motor Vehicle
- ▶ Pharmaceutical

Funding for the 'off-the-job' training element is provided by the Department for the Economy (DfE).



Department for the  
**Economy**  
www.economy-ni.gov.uk

An Roinn  
**Geilleagair**

**Apprenticeships**