



Microsoft Apprenticeship Programme

A program to meet the needs
of individuals, employers and
the UK business market

Apprenticeships





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What is the Microsoft Apprentice Programme?

Since the Microsoft Apprentice programme began in 2010, nearly 20,000 people have gained qualifications through apprenticeships working with Microsoft partners and customers, ranging from large corporations to local companies, as well as at Microsoft itself.

Microsoft Apprenticeships are designed by and for Microsoft partners and customers and delivered by our learning partners, combining online and classroom learning with a real job. The programme covers the most in-demand roles and requirements, and caters for all levels, including Higher and Advanced Apprenticeships. Apprenticeships are available for school leavers, graduates and those returning to work after a career break. Additionally, employers can use them to upskill existing employees to take on new roles. As well as technology, the programme provides roles across sales, marketing and business, with Microsoft providing 50-60 UK apprenticeships of its own each year.



In January 2017, Microsoft publicly committed to delivering 30,000 apprentice starts by 2020 and, while we acknowledge our success to date, we recognise that things cannot stand still. Digital skills development must match the lightning pace of technological progress, so apprentices need to be prepared for next generation technologies such as AI, data science, cyber, analytics, cloud architecture, IoT and DevOps. We must also maintain the high quality of apprenticeships achieved to date.

Microsoft Apprenticeships offer

- An attractive alternative to university
- Opportunities from Level 3 to undergraduate degree and beyond
- Training costs subsidised by Government
- Full compliance with English and Scottish apprenticeship standards
- A range of roles from digital marketing to cloud systems administrators and apps developers
- A core Microsoft Certification Path for each programme

Microsoft & Apprenticeships

Microsoft has pioneered a “supply chain” approach to apprenticeships that has delivered scale and reach in digital apprenticeships unmatched anywhere else in the tech sector.

Starting in 2009, Microsoft piloted an approach with our Partner Network and customers which developed into a national programme, delivering 4,500 apprenticeship starts in Digital Technology roles across 3,000 Microsoft Partners and customers in 2017 alone.

Microsoft Apprenticeships are designed by and for This employer-led, “supply-chain” approach has also seen significant completion rates across all Learning Partners, averaging 88%, with retention rates post- apprenticeship at around 90%. In addition, with salaries in digital technology occupations in a high growth sector being well above the national average, a survey of apprentices on the Microsoft programme found they earn better than peers entering the sector through other routes.

90%

of apprentices remain with their employer post-apprenticeship

79%

of businesses claim the programme has enabled them to better service their clients

4,500

apprenticeships in digital roles

90%

of apprentices see the programme as an opportunity to jumpstart their career



Microsoft & Apprenticeships

On average, Microsoft apprentices earn 31% more annually, equating approximately to £5,200 more per year.

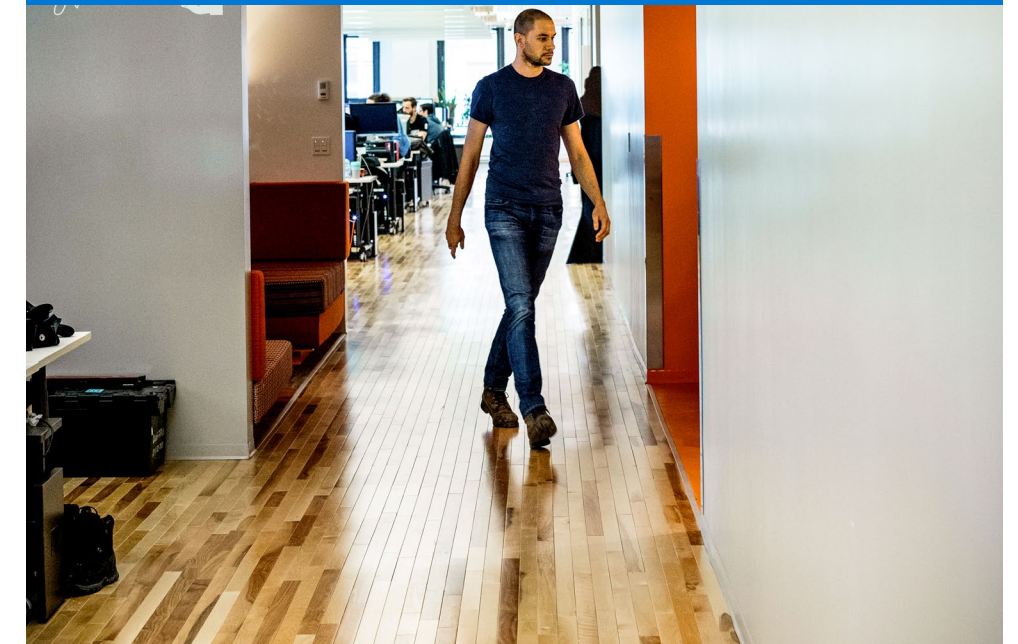


Benefits for individuals

- An effective alternative to university
- Suits your learning style
- Work for innovative Microsoft partners and customers
- Gain qualifications AND experience
- A real working environment
- No university fees
- Earn while you learn
- Suitable for everyone, not just for technical careers
- 92% of apprentices stay on with their employer

Benefits for businesses

- The right skills, the right jobs
- The right qualifications
- A stable workforce
- All levels
- The best training
- Be more competitive, attract new talent and upskill current employees



Businesses are, on average, £36,840 better off per year by taking on a Microsoft Apprentice over a regular employee, an increase of over £25,000 from 2015.

Future Tech Apprenticeships



Apprenticeships



From ridesharing apps to facial recognition, AI is more and more important in our day-to-day lives. It has an essential role in enabling businesses to compete and thrive in the 4th Industrial Revolution. Some businesses are already struggling to recruit people with the right cloud and AI knowledge. Others are seeing traditional roles displaced or reduced by the productivity and automation AI provides. As a responsible corporate citizen, Microsoft has a mission to help upskill our partners and produce more employees with the right skills. We want to upskill individuals to match the jobs available, while also helping those who have been displaced by AI jobs. Our apprenticeships provide a route into high level AI occupations and help existing staff move up to jobs that need AI skills, while helping returners to re-enter the workplace.

“As a responsible corporate citizen, Microsoft has a mission to help upskill our partners and produce more employees with the right skills.”

Who Pays for Apprentices?

- Wage bill under £3 million p.a. – Government pays 90 % of the cost of apprenticeship training.
- Fewer than 50 employees – younger apprentices (16-18) are 100% funded.
- UK-based employers with a wage bill over £3 million pay a 0.5 % Apprenticeship Levy into a digital account, which the Government tops up by 10%. The funds can then be spent on apprenticeship programmes.
- £1,000 incentive payment for each 16-18 year old apprentice, and for 19-24 year olds who are care-experienced or have a Education, Health and Care Plan.



Find out more

Digital Skills Home

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/athome/digitalskills/>

Microsoft Apprentices

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/athome/digitalskills/apply/>

Microsoft Education

<https://education.microsoft.com>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/MicrosoftUKEducation/>

Twitter

<https://twitter.com/microsofteduk/>