

**A Quick Guide to Apprenticeships**

**What is an apprenticeship?**

An apprenticeship is a real job where you learn, gain experience and get paid. You’re an employee with a contract of employment and holiday leave. By the end of an apprenticeship, you’ll have the right skills and knowledge needed for your chosen career. It can take normally between one and 5 years to complete an apprenticeship or sometimes longer depending on which one you choose. It’s funded from contributions made by the government and your employer. Apprenticeships at Alder Hey are fully funded by the government.

**How do I become an apprentice?**

To become an apprentice in England, you must:

* **Be 16 or over**
* **Not already be in full-time education**
* **Live in England**

You can start an apprenticeship whether you’re starting your career, want a job change or you’re upskilling in your current job.

**What will I do as an apprentice?**

* Learn and train for a specific job
* Get paid and receive holiday pay
* Get hands-on experience in a real job
* Study for up to 6 hours of your working hours *(6 hours for FTE, pro-rata for PTE* ) – usually at a college, university or with a training provider or at your place of work
* Complete assessments during and at the end of your apprenticeship
* Be on a career pathway with lots of future potential!

**Do I need any qualifications to become an apprentice?**

**Normally no**. However, depending on the level, some apprenticeships may:

* Require previous qualifications such and English and Maths GCSEs or Functional Skills
* Give extra training in English or maths skills needed so that you’re on the right level for your apprenticeship
* Require other previous qualifications, e.g. to apply for the Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship, in addition to English and maths, you must evidence at least 112 UCAS points achieved through A-Levels, access to higher education with distinction (in healthcare) or a BTEC Level 3 National Diploma

*\*You can only complete an apprenticeship if you don’t already hold equivalent qualifications at the same level of the apprenticeship as you must be able to gain* ***significant*** *new knowledge, skills and behaviours (KSBs) as part of your apprenticeship training.*

***Click on the link below to access all current healthcare apprenticeship standards:***

<https://haso.skillsforhealth.org.uk/standards/>



**What will I achieve at the end of my apprenticeship?**

Each apprenticeship has a level and an equivalent education level and you’ll achieve this at the end of your apprenticeship. For example, if you complete a level 3 apprenticeship, you’ll achieve the equivalent of an A-Level. You will also achieve Maths and English Functional Skills qualifications as part of your apprenticeship if you started it without these, or without GCSEs in Maths and English, normally at grades 4 – 9.

**How do I apply to become an apprentice at Alder Hey?**

Any current apprenticeship opportunities with Alder Hey are advertised through NHS Jobs and on our Alder Hey Academy page.

Please visit our Academy page for guidance on **‘How to apply for NHS jobs’:** [Apprenticeships - Alder Hey Children's Hospital Trust](https://www.alderhey.nhs.uk/academy/apprenticeships/)

**Are there any apprenticeship opportunities currently at Alder Hey?**

Apprenticeship opportunities with the NHS and at Alder Hey are advertised mainly through NHS Jobs:

<https://www.jobs.nhs.uk/>

Other apprenticeship opportunities are advertised on the government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>