

## **Apprentices - England**

### **What is an apprenticeship?**

Apprenticeships are nationally designed work-based training programmes. They offer an important opportunity for learning and development usually at the start of your career. They will provide you with the relevant skills and knowledge whilst gaining experience in your job. It is the first step towards a long-term career, enabling you to progress in the industry.

There are currently two sectors covered by apprenticeship frameworks within the People1<sup>st</sup> footprint - Hospitality and Catering and Travel and Tourism Services: Leisure and Business.

### **What are the benefits of an apprenticeship?**

The Blueprint for Apprenticeships (approved by the Apprenticeship Ministerial Steering Group in February 2005) describes the benefits of the apprenticeship which include:

- Combining on-the-job and off-the-job, formal and non-formal learning opportunities
- Training that is truly based in a working environment, is tailored to the needs of a specific job role but also provides transferable skills that will be needed throughout a working life
- Success measured by the ability to carry out a job in its entirety, assessed by those already skilled in the role

Previous research conducted by People1st has highlighted the main benefits of the apprenticeship as being:

- Increased recruitment, retention and motivation of staff
- A demonstration of an organisation's commitment to training
- Supporting performance and career development
- Providing cost effective training
- A programme that is consistent and structured
- A programme which complements in-house training
- Supporting the development of skills

### **What sort of job roles can I be working in as an apprentice?**

There are a number of roles an apprentice could be working in depending on the apprenticeship pathway they complete. For example, they could be working as a waiter or silver service waiter, bar-person, receptionist, cook, chef, kitchen assistant, housekeeper, Leisure Travel Consultant or Business Travel Consultant

### **Finding out more about apprenticeships**

If you are interested in finding out more about apprenticeships you can go to the website [www.apprenticeships.org](http://www.apprenticeships.org) and complete a short form with your details. Alternatively, you can call 0800 634 5964 and give your details over the phone. You will be contacted by a local skills broker, local learning provider or the National Employer Service (NES) if you are a national employer.

### **Interested in becoming an apprentice?**

If you are interested in becoming an apprentice you can contact an employer who takes on apprentices. They will usually send you information about the training they offer. Have a look at the UKSP Good Employer Campaign as a start ([www.uksp.co.uk](http://www.uksp.co.uk)).

Alternatively, you can apply through the Learning and Skills Council (LSC). They will put you in touch with a training provider who will try to match you with an employer. Call the national apprenticeships helpline on 08000 150 600 to obtain further information. Alternatively, go to the website [www.apprenticeships.org](http://www.apprenticeships.org). All you need to do is fill in a short form with your details.

**To find out more information about apprenticeships in the sector email [apprenticeship@people1st.co.uk](mailto:apprenticeship@people1st.co.uk)**