

Apprenticeship Financial Support Matrix 2026

Non-Levy Payer (Sole Traders & SMEs)

Key

- ✓ Available
- ✗ Not available
- ! Additional eligibility requirements

Apprentice Age	Training Fully Funded?	Employer NI Required? No NI required for apprentices 16-25 earning less than £50,270 per year	£1,000 Age Payment Additional eligibility requirements ¹	£2,000 Apprenticeship Hiring Incentive Applies 1 October 2026, for apprentices who began employment within the last 90 days	£2,000 Foundation Apprenticeship Additional eligibility requirements ²	£3,000 Youth Jobs Grant Universal Credit claimants (6+ months)
16-17	Yes ✓	No	£1,000 ✓	£2,000 ✓	£2,000 ✓	N/A ✗
18	Yes ✓	No	£1,000 ✓	£2,000 ✓	£2,000 ✓	£3,000 ✓
19-21	Yes ✓	No	£1,000 ¹ !	£2,000 ✓	£2,000 ✓	£3,000 ✓
22-24	Yes ✓	No	£1,000 ¹ !	£2,000 ✓	£2,000 ² !	£3,000 ✓
25+	Levy transfer required	Yes	Not applicable (N/A) ✗	N/A ✗	N/A ✗	N/A ✗

¹Apprentices aged 19-24 with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or care leavers.

²Apprentices aged 22-24 with an EHCP, care leavers or prisoners and prison leavers.

Please note: Additional eligibility requirements, funding rules and terms and conditions may apply to each incentive.



Thinking About Taking on an Apprentice?

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Apprenticeship Financial Support Matrix 2026

Levy Payer (Large Employers)

Key



Available



Not available



Additional eligibility requirements

Apprentice Age	Training Cost Covered by Levy? 25% co-investment, if funds are insufficient	Employer NI Required? No NI required for apprentices 16-25 earning less than £50,270 per year	£1,000 Age Payment Additional eligibility requirements ¹	£2,000 Foundation Apprenticeship Additional eligibility requirements ²	£3,000 Youth Jobs Grant Universal Credit claimants (6+ months)
16-17	Yes	No	£1,000 ✓	£2,000 ✓	N/A ✗
18	Yes	No	£1,000 ✓	£2,000 ✓	£3,000 ✓
19-21	Yes	No	£1,000 ¹ !	£2,000 ✓	£3,000 ✓
22-24	Yes	No	£1,000 ¹ !	£2,000 ² !	£3,000 ✓
25+	Yes	Yes	N/A ✗	N/A ✗	N/A ✗

¹Apprentices aged 19-24 with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or care leavers.

²Apprentices aged 22-24 with an EHCP, care leavers or prisoners and prison leavers.

Please note: Additional eligibility requirements, funding rules and terms and conditions may apply to each incentive.



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