

# APPRENTICESHIPS



# What is an Apprenticeship?

It is a system of employment and training in the skilled trades.

An apprentice acquires the knowledge, skills and experience to become a fully recognised and qualified crafts person.

You will undergo specific tests and assessments to ensure you achieve certain pre-set standards of skill and competence during the course of your apprenticeship.

So, who is eligible to become an apprentice?

Any person, male or female, who has reached their sixteenth birthday and has obtained at least five D's in the Junior or Leaving Certificate.

Some employers will look for qualifications of a higher standard than the above. Also having Metalwork, Tech Drawing, Science and Maths would be also considered an advantage.



Where individuals do not meet the minimum requirements they may be registered as an apprentice by an employer if:

They satisfactorily complete an approved preparatory training course and assessment interview. Or they are over 18 years of age with a minimum of three years relevant work experience and satisfactorily complete an assessment interview.

Apprentices must be employed in their chosen occupation by an employer who has been approved by FÁS. The employer must register the apprentice with FÁS within 2 weeks of recruitment.

How do you benefit?

During the apprenticeship you will receive an apprentice wage for your on-the-job phases from your employer and while off-the-job you will receive a training allowance if appropriate.

On successful completion of the apprenticeship, you will receive a National Craft Certificate, recognised in Ireland as well as other EU and non EU countries, the equivalent of a Level 6 on the National Framework of Qualifications.



How do I go about becoming an Apprentice?

Locate as much information about the trade as you can, the internet is your best resource. Talk to your Guidance Counsellor.

Then find someone doing the job to tell you what it is really like.

Research locally, using family contacts if necessary to see if there are any vacancies for apprenticeships.

If you leave in a C.V. Always call back a week later, to make sure a prospective employer had a chance to read it.

Check the Army, Dublin Bus, the E.S.B. and others to see when they might be advertising. Always keep an eye on local papers as well.

Remember if someone is willing to take you on, they have to get permission from FAS, generally through their local Apprenticeship Services Office, and this should be done within 2 weeks.

Once you receive your registration number you will be sent your Apprenticeship Manual.

## FURNITURE

Cabinet maker

Upholsterer

Wood Finisher

Wood Machinist

## PRINTING

Printer

Compositor

Litho Printer/ Plate Maker

Carton Maker

Graphic Producer

## ELECTRICAL

Installations  
Industrial Maintenance  
Electrician  
Instrumentation  
Power Supply  
Rewinder  
Lift Installation

## MOTOR

Motor Mechanic  
Agriculture Mechanic  
Heavy Vehicle Mechanic  
Vehicle Body Repair

## ENGINEERING

Aircraft Mechanic

Coppersmith

Fitter

Metal Fabricator

Pattern Maker

Refrigeration

Sheet Metal Worker

Ship Builder

Toolmaker

Welder

## CONSTRUCTION

Carpenter/ Joiner  
Painter/ Deocrator  
Plumber  
Brick/ Stonelayer  
Plasterer  
Glazier  
Stonecutter  
Slater/ Rooftiler  
Construction Plant

## DENTAL

Dental Craftperson

## Other Options:

Racing: You can train to become a jockey at: Curagh House, Kildare

Horology: Diploma course for anyone who wants to become a watch and clock technician.

The Irish/Swiss Institute of Horology, Blanchardstown.

Irish Rail, Dublin Bus and Irish Bus generally seek the following apprentices each year: Electricians, Fitter/Turner, Heavy Vehicle Mechanic, Vehicle Body Repairer.

Aer Lingus (aircraft engineering & maintenance) offer Apprenticeships to aircraft maintenance engineers.



**APPROPRIATE  
SUBJECTS  
RELEVANT TO  
TRADE**

**(which may also  
influence  
employers  
recruiting  
apprentices)**

**METALWORK**

**WOODWORK**

**MECHANICAL  
DRAWING**

**CONSTRUCTION  
STUDIES**

**MATHS**

**SCIENCE**

**PHYSICS**

**ENGLISH**

**DESIGN AND  
COMMUNICATION**

**???**

## The “Ishihara” Colour Vision Test 24 Plate Edition

Agricultural Mechanics

Aircraft Mechanics

Construction Plant Fitting

Electrical

Electrical Instrumentation

Electronic Security Systems

Floor & Wall Tiling

Heavy Vehicle Mechanics

Instrumentation

Motor Mechanics

Painting & Decorating

Print Media

Refrigeration & Air Conditioning

Vehicle Body Repairs

A person wishing to become an apprentice in one of the above listed trades must pass a colour – vision test approved by FÁS.

PHASE	WITH EMPLOYER	APPROX. TIME IN MONTHS	FÁS TRAINING CENTRE OR COLLEGE
1	ON THE JOB	4	----
2	----	5	OFF THE JOB
3	ON THE JOB	11	----
4	----	2 ½	OFF THE JOB
5	ON THE JOB	11	----
6	----	2 ½	OFF THE JOB



# Apprentice Training Allowances (Gross Wage Norms)

Construction Industry  
Effective: 04 February 2011

Phase 2  
€223.47

Phase 4  
€335.79

Phase 6  
€503.49

4th Year  
€604.11

Trades Included:

Brick & Stonelaying  
Carpentry & Joinery  
Plastering  
Floor/Wall Tiling

Cabinet Making  
Painting & Decorating  
Plumbing  
Wood Machinery

## Female Bursary

FÁS is committed to promoting equality of opportunity in the workplace.

FÁS offers a bursary to employers in both the public and private sectors to encourage an increased level of recruitment of women apprentices.

The bursary provides a total grant of €2,667 to each employer for each female apprentice recruited.

The grant is a contribution towards wage and other apprentice costs over the first 28 weeks of phases 1 and 3 (on-the-job phases) of the Apprenticeship