

# 01

## Financial incentives of up to £2K for recruiting young people on construction apprenticeships



- Construction is one of the key sectors that will benefit from new foundation apprenticeships backed by an additional £40 million has launched in 2025.
- Apprentices can do a Foundation Apprenticeship at the same or lower level than a qualification they already hold, if it develops new knowledge, skills and behaviours. This will inspire more young people into the construction industry and allow them to progress and specialise in advanced apprenticeships, giving them the tools they need for a sustained and rewarding career.  
**More information from Skills England.**
- As part of this new offer, up to £2,000 in total is available to providers and employers for eligible learners, plus an additional £666 progression payment for those who go on to a higher-level apprenticeship, this is on top of fully funding the training costs through the new Growth and Skills Levy.

# 02

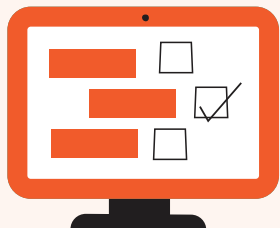
## Access specialised training provision to meet construction skill shortages, upskill existing employees and create entry pathways for new talent



- £14 million of adult skills funding for construction to be devolved to local mayors, expected to support up to 5,000 additional adult learners nationally.
- £100 million over 4 years to expand Construction Skills Bootcamps to ensure new entrants, returners, or those looking to upskill within the industry will be able to do so.
- 10 technical excellence colleges (CTEC) specialising in construction skills, opening in September 2025, and we are delighted that Sunderland College has been announced as the region's Construction Excellence College, dedicated to working with partners to provide specialist skills for the industry.
- A further £100 million of government funding, alongside a £32 million contribution from the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) will fund over 40,000 industry placements each year for all Level 2 and Level 3 learners, those studying NVQs, BTECs, T-levels, and advanced apprenticeships. This will help get learners 'site-ready' and address the 'leaky pipeline' of learners who don't progress into the sector.
- All Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) areas will benefit from £20 million to form partnerships between colleges and construction companies, to boost the number of teachers with construction experience in colleges, sharing their vital expertise by training the next generation of workers.
- Contact your **local CITB** or Training Provider for more information.

## 03

### CITB support available to SMEs through its New Entrant Support Team



- North East - **New Entrant Support Team - CITB** will support businesses to recruit an apprentice, access their CITB funding, support with setting up your Government Digital Account and organise your apprenticeship enrolment paperwork and will support you to retain your apprentice.

## 04

### CITB funding opportunities to attract your talent pipeline



- The following incentives are in addition to the government's foundation apprenticeship financial offering.
- £2,500 per year attendance grant, valid for the time your apprentice is attending training once they have completed 13 full weeks.
- £3,500 completion grant, valid once your apprentice has fully completed the apprenticeship standard. This must include maths and English functional skills, if the learner has not already achieved this prior to sign up.
- Financial support for apprentice travel and accommodation "travelling to train". 80% of accommodation and subsistence costs for apprentices staying away for block training. The employer is required to pay for the remaining 20% of the total cost.
- Travel costs that exceed £20 per week per apprentice, only the excess amount will be claimable.
- To safeguard apprentices and achieve volume booking discounts, accommodation is sourced by CITB's approved hotel provider. Accommodation is booked on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis. Accommodation funding and/or travel costs can only be claimed for apprentices employed by CITB registered, grant eligible employers in England, Scotland and Wales.
- Into Work Grant. £500 grant for employers that support full time construction learners with work experience placements for a minimum of 30 hours. £1,000 grant paid following three-months completed direct employment, for the individual who had earlier completed the work experience. This can include employment as part of an apprenticeship. ***This pilot ends in November of this year: What's new in the Grants Scheme - CITB.***
- More details **Grants & Funding for Training Courses - CITB.**

## 05

### Faster and more accessible routes to accessing construction talent



- New, shorter apprenticeship programmes allow for prior learning to be assessed and recorded with the minimum eligibility for apprenticeship funding now stands at 8 months or 187 off-the-job (OTJ) training hours. This is a significant change from the current 12-month minimum. These can be delivered flexibly across any timeline (as long as they meet the 8-month minimum), without affecting OTJ hour requirements. This change offers greater agility in designing apprenticeships tailored to individuals' starting points, it also means robust initial assessment and clear documentation are more important than ever to avoid diluting the quality of apprenticeships **Apprenticeship funding rules, 2025 to 2026: summary of changes.**
- An accelerated apprenticeship is now officially recognised. These are programmes shortened by at least three months due to prior learning, and must still meet the minimum 8 month duration and 187 off the job hour requirement (OTJ). **A flexible approach to construction apprenticeships - CITB.**
- From 11 February 2025, new rules came into effect: Apprentices aged 16-18 still need to achieve English and Maths qualifications, even if they turn 19 during their apprenticeship. Apprentices aged 19+ are no longer required to pass English and Maths to complete apprenticeships unless required by regulation or qualification. **10,000 more apprentices as government slashes red tape to boost growth - GOV.UK.**