

## Overview

Professional services include a range of different occupations which provide support to businesses of all sizes and in all sectors. People working in professional services provide specialist advice to their clients. This includes things like providing tax advice, supporting a company with accounting or providing business advice. The kinds of services provided mean that the professional services sector helps to improve productivity and growth across the economy.

Professional services are critical to the success of the UK economy, representing 15% of UK GDP, 14% of employment and 14% of exports.

The Professional Services Higher Apprenticeship includes routes into audit, management consultancy and tax. Apprentices will work and study towards a qualification, following one of these three routes. Audit and tax qualifications will be aligned with ICAEW and ATT professional status.

Starting salary (once qualified): £13,000 - £25,000 depending on company and location within the UK.

## What is a Higher Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is a mix of real work and learning. Apprentices earn a wage and get experience whilst working towards a number of qualifications. Apprenticeships are available at Intermediate, Advanced and Higher levels.

Higher Apprenticeships are designed to meet employers' needs at level 4 or above, and include qualifications at a level equivalent to Higher Education.

## Example job roles as a Higher Apprentice

- External audit trainee / assistant / apprentice / junior
- Internal audit trainee / assistant / apprentice / junior
- Tax trainee / assistant / apprentice / junior
- Junior consultant
- Account executive
- Business development assistant

## Apprenticeship Framework

There are a number of elements to each Apprenticeship and this is called the framework. Each Apprenticeship framework has three main strands:

- Competence based element
- Technical element
- Skills element

The three strands are sometimes accompanied by additional qualifications to give the most relevant skills and knowledge required for the job.

## The Professional Services Framework

The Framework has routes into audit, management consulting and tax, which applicants can choose from when applying.

Apprentices taking the audit route will gain the ICAEW Certificate in Finance and Business qualification alongside their Apprenticeship. Apprentices taking the tax route will gain the Association of Tax Technicians qualification.

## Apprenticeships Available

- Apprenticeship x
- Advanced Apprenticeship x
- Higher Apprenticeship ✓

## Progression routes

- Professional Qualifications
- Higher Education
- Management and senior positions

## Already employed?

Are you currently employed but not working towards qualifications? Speak to your employer about converting to an Apprenticeship and ask them to call 08000 150 600 for more information.

## For more information

Visit: [www.apprenticeships.org.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk)  
[www.pwc.co.uk/higherapprenticeships](http://www.pwc.co.uk/higherapprenticeships)

If you require further advice or support on Apprenticeships please contact your local Connexions or Careers Advice Service.