

# Top Tips – What you need to know about higher apprenticeships

Supplied by: *The Open University*



## Top 10 Tips for.....

The top **six things** you need to know about higher apprenticeships

1. They're new – but growing rapidly in popularity

Between 2013/14 and 2014/15 there was a doubling of the number higher apprentice starts in England<sup>[1]</sup> to 19,800. This means higher apprenticeships represent 4% of all apprenticeship course starts – and they've grown in number every year since they were introduced in 2009.

2. Higher apprenticeships cover more sectors than you might think

Higher apprenticeships are available in more than 75 different subjects across 40 different job areas, from aerospace to accountancy and construction to creative media.

3. Employers rate higher apprentices as more employable

ICM research finds employers in England rate higher apprentices as 25% more employable than those who took alternative study routes to the workplace.

4. The benefits apply all-round

As well as higher apprentices benefiting from increased lifetime earnings of around £150,000 (about the same now as a graduate)<sup>[2]</sup>, employers benefit too: businesses report average increases in productivity of £214 a week from apprentices, with 75% of bosses saying their apprentice programme reduces recruitment costs<sup>[3]</sup>

5. Higher apprentices are smart

To do a higher apprentice, individuals need at least a Level 3 qualification: that is A Levels, Advanced-Level Diplomas, or NVQs at Level 3. Higher apprentices are definitely not the preserve of the academically un-gifted.

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### 6. Higher apprenticeships are where it's happening

Of the 199 published standards for apprenticeships at the beginning of 2016, more than 40% of them were for Higher or Degree-level Apprenticeships<sup>[4]</sup>.

If you would like to find out about OU Higher and Degree Apprenticeships, then take a look at our Chartered Manager Degree Apprenticeship, Higher Apprenticeship in Health (Assistant Practitioner) and our Digital and Technology Solutions Degree Apprenticeship.

[1] Apprenticeship Statistics England (1996-2015) – House of Commons Library

[2] 'University education: Is this the best route into employment?': AAT and CEBR, (February 2013)

[3] Statistic from 2014 CIPD report: 'Apprentices that work – a guide for employers' – derived from apprentice across all levels

[4] [www.nepic.co.uk/wp-content/.../Apprenticeship-Reforms-Standard-19-Jan-2016.pdf](http://www.nepic.co.uk/wp-content/.../Apprenticeship-Reforms-Standard-19-Jan-2016.pdf)

[And here's the link to where this is held :

<http://www.open.ac.uk/business/professional-learning-development/apprenticeships/blog/higher-apprenticeships-six-things-you-need-to-know>

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