

# West of England Apprenticeship Grant for Employers

## West of England Employer Declaration Fact Sheet

The West of England Apprenticeship Grant for Employers is an incentive scheme for employers who wish to employ an apprentice. It provides a grant to help support an employer's costs associated with employing and training a young person on an apprenticeship.

Please ensure that you have taken the time to read and understand the following information.

- West of England Apprenticeship Grant for Employers replaces the national AGE 16-24 grant schemes within the eligible area; a business post code in B&NES, Bristol and South Gloucestershire; the national scheme remains the same outside of the West of England.
- Employers can only access the West of England Apprenticeship Grant for Employers funding within a post code of B&NES, Bristol and South Gloucestershire.
- The West of England criteria offers more flexible employer eligibility, as well as the potential to access substantially higher levels of financial support per apprentice than would otherwise be available through the national AGE programme.
- West of England Apprenticeship Grant for Employers has a value of between £1500 and £2500 per apprentice, depending on the circumstances and on the type of apprenticeship opportunity you are offering. This compares to a maximum £1500 grant in the national AGE programme.
- West of England Apprenticeship Grant for Employers is available to organisations with fewer than 250 employees employing apprentices aged between 16 and 24 years on approved apprenticeship frameworks.
- Each employer can access up to five grants under this programme.
- You will be eligible to receive the grant once your provider is reasonably satisfied that the Apprentice will be maintained within your company.
- Following receipt of the grant, it is expected that your training provider will transfer the funds to you within a reasonable time of receipt. Therefore, it is important to note that it could take several weeks following the apprentices starting in learning, for you to receive your grant.

For further information please contact [apprenticeships@westofengland.org](mailto:apprenticeships@westofengland.org)

Or if you have a specific question related to the West of England Apprenticeship Grant for Employers call 0117 943 4859

The West of England Employer Declaration is available at [www.apprenticeshiphubwest.co.uk](http://www.apprenticeshiphubwest.co.uk)

## 1. Definitions

**Employer** means an individual or organisation that employs an Apprentice. The Employer must have a presence (office base as defined by postcode) within the West of England Devolution Area and fewer than 250 employees.

**Eligible area** means an employer with a business post code in B&NES, Bristol and South Gloucestershire.

**Apprenticeship** means an Apprenticeship framework recognised by the Skills Funding Agency.

**'Eligible Apprentice/s'**, means an individual aged between 16 and 24 years of age following an Apprenticeship Framework.

**Basic payment** means a payment of £1,500 to an Employer where the Apprentice meets only the Basic criteria.

**Incentive payment** means a payment of £2,500 to an Employer where the Apprentice meets the Basic criteria and one or more of the four Incentive criteria.

**Funding Agreement** means this Agreement between the Provider and the Accountable Body under which the Provider can offer West of England AGE Grants.

**ILR** means individualised Learner Record.

**WofE** means West of England.

**BAME** means Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic