

Speech and Language Therapy Degree Apprenticeship Frequently Asked Questions

Further to the national procurement for the Speech and Language Therapy Degree Apprenticeship, Sheffield University have been procured via Salisbury Procurement Services as the main provider to deliver across the North West region. Applications for the September 2023 intake are now open.

How long is the apprenticeship?

The apprenticeship is 48 months in duration as stipulated on the apprenticeship standard.

When is the next intake?

September 2023

How is the apprenticeship delivered?

The apprenticeship can either be delivered face to face at Sheffield university OR virtual learning can also be facilitated.

What is the entry criteria?

The university will work with employers to determine suitability of candidates, however generally the entry criteria should include -

- 3 A Levels ABB **OR** an equivalent Level 3 qualification including: -
- BTEC extended diploma DDD in health care or science subject
- Access to HE diploma in a relevant subject with 45 credits at level 3 including 36 at distinction and 9 at merit.

PLUS

- 3 GCSEs at grade C/4 or above, including Maths and English **OR**
- Level 2 equivalent qualifications (eg Functional skills)
- Maths and English must have already been achieved at the point of enrolment.

IELTs (International English Language Testing System)

Applicants whom English is not a first language will require an overall IELTS score of 8, with no subtest below 7.5. This IELTS score is the threshold needed to apply for registration with the Health and Care Professionals Council (HCPC)

What is the placement format?

Apprentices require 525 hours overall of supervised placement time (adults and children)

3 weeks (15 days in years 1-2 and 4 weeks (20 days) in years 3-4

Placement must be a different setting to apprentices' usual place of work.

Speech and Language degree apprenticeship FAQ

Can employers reserve places?

No, employers cannot reserve places. Application for this programme will be via a competitive interview process with Sheffield University. Employers are advised to do their own internal selection process and put forward suitable candidates to the university interview process which will take place in partnership with the employer.

What are the timeframes for the September 23 intake?

Now – June 23 – Employers to advertise posts and identify suitable candidates.

May 23 – June 23 – Joint Interview with employer, university, and candidate

July 23 – Sept 23 - Once candidates have been offered a place there is an 8–10-week onboarding period.

Sept 23 – Apprentice starts on programme.

It may be possible to offer unsuccessful candidates a place on the 2024 intake, however this should be discussed between employer and the provider to check if this is possible.

How many places are available?

There will be approximately 15 places available on the 2023 cohort. And a further 20 places on the 2024 intake.

As this programme was procured nationally, unfortunately we can't allocate a set number of places for the region or systems.

The provider will be monitoring demand and it may be that further places become available.

What are the next steps?

Employers to complete their internal recruitment or selection process to identify suitable candidates, then follow the time frames above to link with the provider to arrange suitable interview dates.

What is the provider contact email address?

Employers can contact the provider on hss-apprenticeships@sheffield.ac.uk