



Traditional and Non
Traditional Standards Based
Apprenticeships Explored

What is an apprentice?

An apprentice is a person who works for an employer in a chosen occupation and gains the necessary skills, knowledge and attitudes to become a qualified craftsperson.

Coordinated & Managed by

Department of Education and Skills

SOLAS

Specific Employers & Unions

The word "SOLAS" is displayed in a large, bold, sans-serif font. The letter "O" is uniquely styled as a thick, circular ring with a vibrant rainbow gradient, transitioning from red at the top to purple at the bottom. The letters "S", "L", "A", and "S" are in a solid dark grey or black color. The entire word is contained within a thin black rectangular border.

List of current apprenticeship programmes by industry sector



- Advanced Quantity Surveyor L9
- Brick and Stonelaying L6
- Carpentry and Joinery L6
- Geo-Drilling L6
- Painting and Decorating L6
- Plastering L6
- Plumbing L6
- Scaffolding L5
- Stonecutting and Stonemasonry L6
- Wood Manufacturing and Finishing L6



- Aircraft Mechanics L6
- Electrical L6
- Electrical Instrumentation L6
- Electronic Security Systems L6
- Industrial Electrical Engineering L7
- Instrumentation L6
- Refrigeration and Air Conditioning L6



- Auctioneering and Property Services L6



- Advanced Healthcare Assistant L6



- Accounting Technician L6
- International Financial Services Associate L6
- International Financial Services Specialist L8



- Civil Engineering Technician L6
- Civil Engineering L7
- Engineering Services Management L7
- Equipment Systems Engineer L9
- Farriery L6
- Industrial Insulation L6
- Lean Sigma Manager L9
- Manufacturing Engineering L7
- Manufacturing Technology L6
- Mechanical Automation and Maintenance Fitting L6
- Metal Fabrication L6
- OEM Engineering L6
- Pipefitting L6
- Polymer Processing Technology L7
- Principal Engineer L10
- Sheet Metalworking L6
- Toolmaking L6
- Wind Turbine Maintenance Technician L6



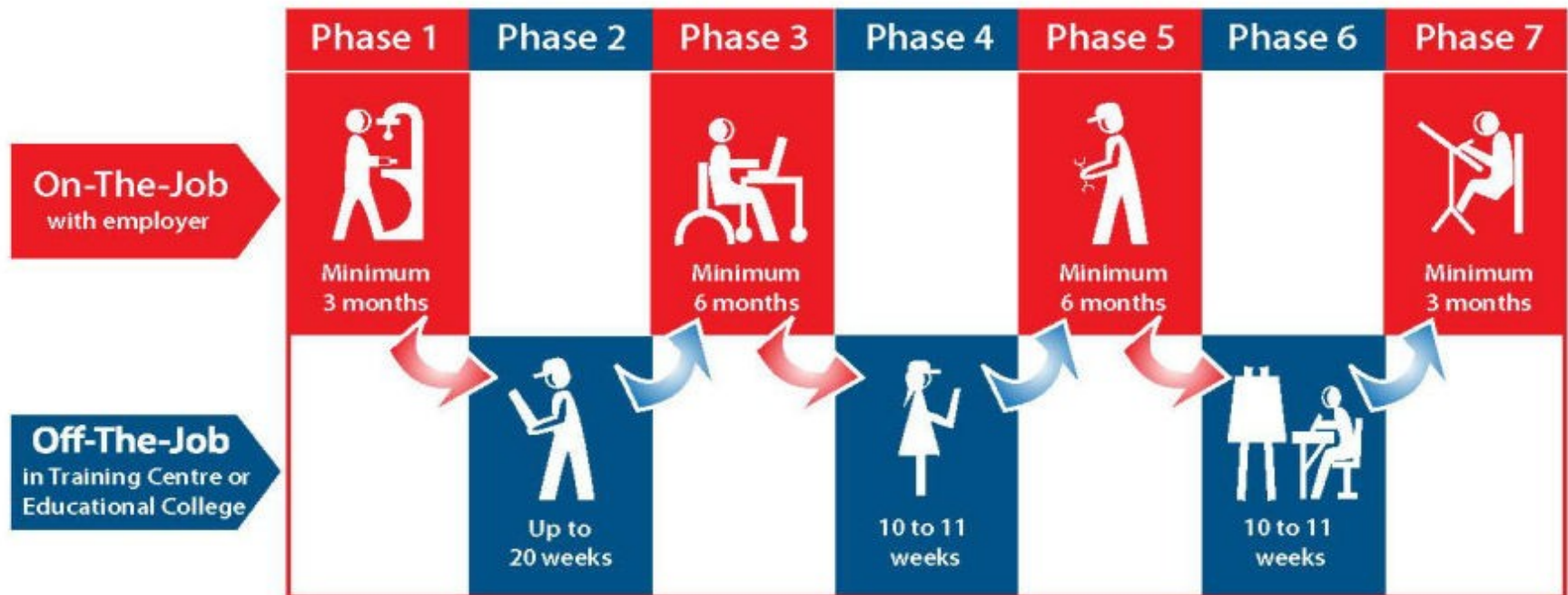
- Arboriculture L6
- Farm Technician L6
- Farm Manager L7
- Horticulture L6
- Sportsturf Management L6

The apprenticeship will involve both off-the-job training and on-the-job training at your employer's workplace.



A **traditional** apprenticeship *generally* lasts for 4 Years. You will spend 3 different periods in Off-the-job training, totaling 40 weeks in all.

APPRENTICESHIP PHASES






Key Features of **all** apprenticeships

- Lead to award levels 5–10 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ)
- Between 2–4 years in duration
- Minimum 50% on-the-job learning
- Flexible delivery – online, blended, off-the-job learning in increments/blocks
- Apprentices are employed under a formal contract of apprenticeship
- The apprentice is paid for the duration of the apprenticeship
- Industry-led

This training will take place in a SOLAS Training Centre or in an educational college.



A collection of various hand tools, including wrenches, screwdrivers, and pliers, arranged on a blue textured background. The tools are organized in rows, with wrenches at the top and screwdrivers and pliers at the bottom. A central text box is overlaid on the image.

Each apprenticeship programme is based on specific skills and standards of that particular field.



In order to pass the apprenticeship you must meet these standards.



Criteria for becoming an apprentice:

Be at least 16



Criteria for becoming an apprentice:

Have a minimum of five 'Achieveds' in the Junior Cert. Some employers require considerably more than this.



Criteria for becoming an apprentice

You must obtain employment as an apprentice in your chosen trade. Your employer must be approved to train apprentices and must register you as an apprentice within 2 weeks of recruitment



Assessment

Will include written modular work and practical assessments.



Assessment

Your apprenticeship will be stopped if you fail to pass the modular assessments four times.



Assessment



On successful completion of an apprenticeship, a QQI Certificate is awarded.
Level 5 to Level 10.



Once an apprentice you may then be eligible for further study on a related degree provided by IOTs around the country.

A vintage, slightly faded map of Europe is the background. It shows various countries and cities in different colors. A blue rectangular box is superimposed on the upper part of the map, containing the word 'Assessment:'.

Assessment:

This is recognised internationally as the requirement for craftsperson status.

Allowances

Participants of the majority of SOLAS training courses are eligible for different allowances
In other words, you get paid to learn.



Allowances



The main allowances are given for the course participants' Training, Travel, Accommodation, Meals, and Childcare.

What employers are looking for?

Passion to learn
Interest in chosen occupation
and apprenticeship
Positive attitude
Communication skills
Reliable
Good time-keeper
Dedicated and focused
on the job





If all this appears like something you'd be interested in, you should start looking for more information



I'm interested, what next?

- Research the types of apprenticeships available on www.apprenticeship.ie
- Talk to a person already working in your chosen industry
- Talk to your local apprenticeship team in your nearest Education and Training Board. See 'Contact Us' page on www.apprenticeship.ie
- Search for apprenticeship opportunities on the Jobs Portal (www.apprenticeshipjobs.ie). Also search job search engines and local advertisements.
- Follow #GenerationApprenticeship via Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram