

University of Derby



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First cohort start date:	Sept 2024	Cohort size:	Min 15 Max 50
Number of cohorts per year:	1	Length of course:	2/3 years part time
Scope of delivery:		National	
Delivery methods:		Online (with a residential week)	
Number of academic hours covered by self-directed study:		Not confirmed at Jan 2023	
Proportion of practice hours and academic hours required:		Not confirmed at Jan 2023	
Is a direct entry PA programme already offered?		No	
If so, will Apprenticeship cohorts share tuition with direct entry PA cohorts?		N/A	
If all employer partners committed to rotation of placements, would the university coordinate placements for the cohort?		To be discussed with stakeholders	
Application process			
<p>The University of Derby application process commences 18 weeks prior to the start date of the programme. For September intake we require candidate details by the end of May.</p> <p>Interviews will be held in June and we would expect notification of successful candidates from the employer by the first week in July. We then enter the contract and document signing phase. Once complete, enrolment links are issued, allowing apprentices to commence their programme in a timely fashion.</p> <p>Start dates will be determined as part of consultation with employers during the development phase of the programme. We will continually monitor demand and look to add further intake points should they be required.</p>			
Entry requirements			

Level 2 Maths and English is an apprenticeship requirement and candidates must have evidence of either GCSE (Grade C or 4 or above) or functional skills. For candidates that cannot evidence this, we will support them to attain the qualification through our online functional skills courses.

Alternatively, they can be sign posted to a local college to be supported with face-to-face learning if that is preferred. The candidate can then start with the next available cohort once the qualification has been attained.

Typically, candidates will hold an Honours degree in a biosciences or health-related subject (2:1 or higher preferred). Exact entry requirements will be discussed with employers as part of programme / apprenticeship development. Prior learning (work experience, education, training, qualifications) will be considered for applicants who do not meet the standard entry criteria.

APEL process and support

As part of the detailed onboarding process for apprentices, we will check any prior academic and experiential learning during the interview phase.

A skills scan document is completed by all apprentices, in conjunction with their line manager to assess their current status against the knowledge, skills and behaviours of the apprenticeship standard. If they can demonstrate that they are already operating at the required level against the standard and it is agreed after review, then experiential learning can be applied, to reduce the cost of the apprenticeship, accordingly.

Any academic credit will also be reviewed during the same process and if any recognised prior learning is agreed then advanced standing against the programme can be granted and a reduced programme cost applied.

University of Derby's RPL policy - <https://www.derby.ac.uk/about/academic-regulations/recognition-of-prior-learning/>

We will check that apprentices are able to meet the academic requirements of the programme by applying the entry criteria of the programme as agreed during a robust validation process. We will also use the interview process to ensure that each candidate has the academic ability to succeed on the apprenticeship.