

# Skills and Apprenticeship support for businesses

Get paid for taking on a new apprentice  
£60,000 grant funding on offer  
Act now to claim your share  
Huge benefits to your business  
A local scheme to help you

Training Solutions



Training Solutions

Enquiries: 01843 821580

[training.solutions@thanet.ac.uk](mailto:training.solutions@thanet.ac.uk)

[www.thanet.ac.uk](http://www.thanet.ac.uk)

## Q: What funding is available to which businesses?

A: £60,000 in total is available, to SMEs who have from 1 to 249 employees. Each business can receive a maximum of £2500 in total, in two payments.

## Q: How is the grant allocated?

A: The value of the payment to the SME depends on the weekly starting wage of the apprentice at the time of the first claim.

|                     |   |                              |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------|
| £149 or less        | = | 2 payments of £1000          |
| £150 and up to £240 | = | 2 payments (£1000 and £1250) |
| £241 or more        | = | 2 payments (£1000 and £1500) |

As most apprentices are paid £149 or less, approximately 30 employers can benefit from the scheme.

## Q: How are the payments determined?

A: The employer must employ 1 – 249 employees AND have not previously had an apprentice OR it has been 12 months since the last Apprenticeship ended OR the new Apprentice is additional to other Apprentices.

The payments will be made on completion of 6 weeks from the start of the Apprenticeship and on completion of 26 weeks, should they remain on the programme.

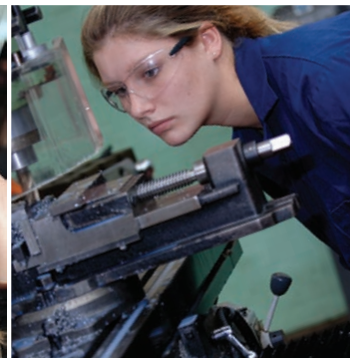
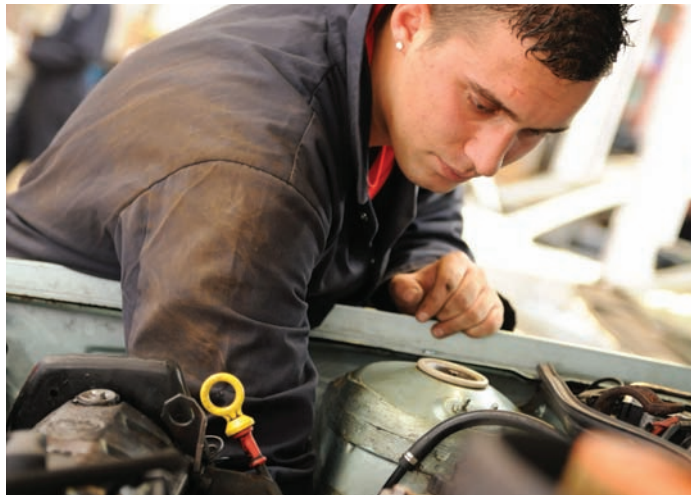
## Q: What kind of apprenticeship job does the scheme require?

A: The employment on the Apprenticeship programme must be 35 hours a week, including off the job training. The apprentice can be from any of the wide variety of the programmes from Training Solutions, such as Business Administration, motor vehicle maintenance, customer service, construction, catering or hospitality etc.

## Q: How and when can I apply?

A: The scheme starts at the end of June 2011. Call Training Solutions on 01843 821580 or email [training.solutions@thanet.ac.uk](mailto:training.solutions@thanet.ac.uk) as soon as you can, to register your interest.

Act quickly to secure your grant as only 30 places are available. The training cost charged by Training Solutions at Thanet College for a 19 – 24 year old apprentice goes up from £350 to £500 from 1 August. Other providers often charge much more. If you make a commitment now or before the end of July to take an apprentice under the scheme within three months, we will be able to give you a discount by holding the fees at £350. There are no training fees for an 18 year old.



## Q: Who can be hired as the apprentice?

A: The offer applies to people who meet the criteria below who have been claiming Job Seekers Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance (in the Work Related Activity Group) i.e. on active benefits, looking to move into the labour market. With Job Centre Plus we will help to identify eligible candidates.

1. They must be 18 – 24 at the start of the Apprenticeship.
2. They need to have attended a specific programme supplied by Training Solutions/Thanet College of at least 9 Guided Learning Hours within April 2011 to July 2012. That may include vocational or specific skills, job search skills, IT, basic skills, ESOL, employability skills.
3. They must have access to accredited careers advice.

## Q: How long does the person need to have been unemployed?

A: There is no lower length for the period of unemployment.

Small print: If the person leaves before 6 weeks, no start payment will be made to the employer. However they may take another apprentice and still qualify for the programme. If the person leaves between 7 and 26 weeks and the employer does not recruit another apprentice before end of week 26, no second payment will be made. The second payment can be made if a replacement apprentice is still in place after 26 weeks from their start.

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### Training Solutions

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