

Discover Food Apprenticeships

www.cafre.ac.uk



ApprenticeshipsNI

Apprenticeships are part funded through the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2014-2020 and the Department for the Economy.

What is the ApprenticeshipNI Programme?

The ApprenticeshipNI programme is a work-based training programme where you are employed in your chosen vocation and earning a wage as well as attending off-the-job directed training.

CAFRE provides off-the-job training in the knowledge and skills required, usually on a day release basis, while you have the opportunity to practise and further develop these skills on the job.

Apprenticeships are open to new employees and those already in employment who wish to take up a new role that requires significant training and development.

They lead to nationally recognised qualifications, which are tailored to your needs and those of your employer.

What are the benefits of enrolling on an Apprenticeship?

If you are a school leaver, Apprenticeships will provide you with an attractive alternative to academic studies. You will develop knowledge and skills relevant to your employment.

For the employer, Apprenticeships raise the professional and technical skills of their staff. Employers offering Apprenticeships at Level 2 and Level 3 are eligible for a cash incentive (£500- £750 depending on the vocational area) when their employee fully completes the apprenticeship framework.

Apprenticeships with CAFRE

In addition to Food and Drink Apprenticeships CAFRE also offers Apprenticeships in: Agriculture, Equine, Horticulture, subject to demand.

Level 2 and Level 3 Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships at Level 2 and Level 3 can take up to two years to complete. They include:

- a vocational qualification in your chosen area. These are practical, hands-on courses designed to teach you the knowledge and skills needed for work. They are competence based, assessed in the college or workplace.
- additional qualifications relevant to the sector.
- completion of Essential Skills qualifications in Communication and Application of Number (if you do not already have GCSE passes in English and Maths)
- a knowledge of employment rights and responsibilities (ERR).

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible to enrol on a Level 2 or Level 3 Apprenticeship programme you must be:

- in paid employment in Northern Ireland
- contracted to work a minimum of 21 hours per week
- You must meet the entry requirements of your chosen vocational area. Further details of these are given on the course pages.

Higher Level Apprenticeships (HLAs)

CAFRE also offers Higher Level and Degree Apprenticeships in Food and Drink Manufacture. Eligibility criteria for the HLA programmes is provided on the course pages.



Food Apprenticeships

Level 2 Apprenticeship
in Food and Drink

Level 3 Apprenticeship
in Food and Drink

Higher Level Apprenticeship
in Food and Drink Manufacture (Level 5)

Degree Apprenticeship
in Food and Drink Manufacture (Level 6)



Level 2 Apprenticeship in Food and Drink

Apprenticeships are offered at Level 2 in a diverse range of work areas within the food and drink sector. The programme aims to equip apprentices with the practical skills and qualifications needed by their employer now and in the future. It also allows apprentices to avail of opportunities to progress their career.

Fact file

- Course duration:**
Approximately two years
- Course location:**
Apprenticeships are normally delivered in your workplace
- How to apply:**
Contact your employer
- Course Manager:**
Nicola Kerr
- Telephone:**
028 8676 8286
- Email:**
Nicola.Kerr@daera-ni.gov.uk



LEVEL 2 APPRENTICESHIP IN FOOD AND DRINK

Course content

Due to the diverse nature of the industry and depending on the needs of the employer, Apprentices may choose from a number of pathways for the competence based element of the Apprenticeship. These pathways include:

- Bakery
- Brewing
- Dairy
- Fish and Shellfish
- Food Industry Skills
- Food Manufacturing Excellence
- Food Team Leading
- Fresh Produce
- Meat and Poultry

To complete a Level 2 Apprenticeship in Food and Drink you must complete a competence based element as well as completing mandatory Essential Skills qualifications in Communication and Application of Number (if you do not already have Maths and English GCSEs at Grade C or above).

How to apply

If you are interested in enrolling on an Apprenticeship programme please speak to your agri-food employer. We welcome enquiries from companies based in Northern Ireland. Applications are made through the employer rather than on an individual basis.

Eligibility requirements

Applicants must be aged over 16 and about to take up or already be in paid employment in an agri-food business in Northern Ireland.

Applicants must be working a minimum of 21 hours a week.

The Food and Drink industry is an Economically Important Sector in Northern Ireland and the Apprenticeship programme is available to adults aged over 24 years.

Progression opportunities

This programme may provide students with the opportunity to progress within their own organisation and to further their education through progression on to a Level 3 Apprenticeship. The course has been designed to meet the growing need of the food industry for qualified people to fill key supervisory roles including production management, quality assurance and product development.

Level 3 Apprenticeship in Food and Drink

Apprenticeships are offered at Level 3 in a diverse range of work areas within the food and drink sector. This programme aims to equip apprentices with the practical skills and qualifications needed by their employer now and in the future. Apprentices will also be able to avail of opportunities to progress their career.

Fact file

- Course duration:**
Approximately two years
- Course location:**
Apprenticeships are normally delivered in your workplace
- How to apply:**
Contact your employer
- Course Manager:**
Nicola Kerr
- Telephone:**
028 8676 8286
- Email:**
Nicola.Kerr@daera-ni.gov.uk



Course content

Due to the diverse nature of the industry and depending on the needs of the employer, Apprentices may choose from a number of pathways at Level 3 for the competence based element of the Apprenticeship. These pathways include:

- Meat and Poultry
- Bakery
- Food Industry Skills and Technical Management
- Food Manufacturing Excellence
- Fresh Produce
- Fish and Shellfish

To complete an Apprenticeship you must complete a competence based element as well as completing mandatory Essential Skills qualifications in Communication and Application of Number (if you do not already have Maths and English GCSEs at Grade C or above).

How to apply

If you are interested in enrolling on an Apprenticeship programme please speak to your agri-food employer. We welcome enquiries from companies based in Northern Ireland. Applications are made through the employer rather than on an individual basis.

Eligibility requirements

Applicants must be aged over 16 and about to take up or already be in paid employment in an agri-food business in Northern Ireland.

Applicants must be working a minimum of 21 hours a week.

The Food and Drink industry is an Economically Important Sector in Northern Ireland and the Apprenticeship programme is available to adults aged over 24 years.

Progression opportunities

This programme may provide students with the opportunity to progress within their own organisation and to further their education through progression on to a Higher Level Apprenticeship or an appropriate Foundation Degree programme.

The course has been designed to meet the growing need of the food industry for qualified people to fill key supervisory roles including production management, quality assurance and product development.

Higher Level Apprenticeship

in Food and Drink Manufacture (Level 5)

A Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA) is a work-based programme aimed at anyone who has completed A-Level or equivalent qualifications. Apprentices earn while learning to gain a Foundation Degree in Food and Drink Manufacture, validated by Ulster University. The programme aims to provide employees with a strong technical background to progress their career with agri-food businesses.

Fact file

- Course duration:**
Three years
- Course location:**
Loughry Campus, via block release from the workplace
- How to apply:**
Contact your employer
- Course Manager:**
Nicola Kerr
- Telephone:**
028 8676 8286
- Email:**
Nicola.Kerr@daera-ni.gov.uk



Content

- Year 1:
- Food science, quality and safety
 - Food microbiology
 - Food processing systems
 - Forecasting and planning
- Year 2:
- New product development
 - Food manufacture and packaging technology
 - Principles of financial management
 - Work-based learning I
- Year 3:
- Lean manufacturing and business improvement
 - Quality management and environmental standards
 - Managing people
 - Work-based learning II

All 12 modules completed during the Apprenticeship will be assessed using coursework mainly based on the Apprentice’s workplace.

Apprentices will be required to attend the college on four occasions during the academic year: normally September, November, January and March.

Eligibility requirements

Applicants must be about to take up or already be in paid employment in a food and drink manufacturing business in Northern Ireland.

Applicants must be working a minimum of 21 hours a week.

Applicants must have a minimum of two A-Levels or equivalent qualifications (which could include a BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma or Level 3 Apprenticeship) plus a minimum three GCSE or equivalent qualifications at Grade C or above including English Language, Mathematics and a science subject.

How to apply

If you are interested in enrolling on an Apprenticeship programme please speak to your agri-food employer. We welcome enquiries from companies based in Northern Ireland. Applications are made through the employer rather than on an individual basis.

Progression opportunities

This programme may provide students with the opportunity to progress within their own organisation and to further their education through progression on to the Degree Apprenticeship or an Honours Degree programme.

The course has been designed to meet the growing need of the food industry for qualified people to fill key supervisory roles including production management, quality assurance and product development.

Degree Apprenticeship in Food and Drink Manufacture (Level 6)

The Degree Apprenticeship is a work-based programme aimed at those who have completed a Foundation Degree in Food and Drink Manufacture, a Foundation Degree in Food Manufacture and Nutrition or equivalent qualification. Apprentices earn while learning to gain an Honours Degree in Food and Drink Manufacture, validated by Ulster University. The programme aims to offer employees the opportunity to develop a strong technical background and so progress their employment in the agri-food industry.

Fact file

- Course duration:**
Two years
- Course location:**
Loughry Campus, via block release from the workplace
- How to apply:**
Contact your employer
- Course Manager:**
Nicola Kerr
- Telephone:**
028 8676 8286
- Email:**
Nicola.Kerr@daera-ni.gov.uk



Course content

Year 1:

- Advanced food safety and fraud management
- Research project
- Sustainable supply chains

Year 2:

- Leading in a process environment
- Robotics and automation in the food industry
- Technical management

All six modules completed during the Apprenticeship will be assessed using coursework relevant to the Apprentice's workplace.

The course will be delivered over a two-year period using our tried-and-tested block release approach.

Apprentices will be required to attend CAFRE on three occasions during the academic year, normally October, January and March.

Course entry requirements

Applicants must be about to take up or already be in paid employment in a food and drink manufacturing business in Northern Ireland.

Applicants must be working a minimum of 21 hours a week.

Applicants must satisfy Ulster University's General Entry Requirements and have attained a Foundation Degree in Food and Drink Manufacture, a Foundation Degree in Food Manufacture and Nutrition or an equivalent qualification, having achieved at least a Pass Grade at 50%.

They must also have achieved GCSE English and Mathematics at Grade C or above. Level 2 Essential Skills in Communication and Level 2 Essential Skills in Application of Number (or equivalent) will be accepted.

Applicants will be required to successfully complete a 20 credit Bridging Module prior to entry on to this programme.

How to apply

If you are interested in enrolling on this Apprenticeship programme please speak to your employer. We welcome enquiries from agri-food businesses based in Northern Ireland. Applications are made through the employer rather than on an individual basis.

Progression opportunities

This programme may provide students with the opportunity to progress within their own organisation and to further their education through progression on to a postgraduate programme.

The course has been designed to meet demand within the food industry for qualified people to fill key management roles including production management, technical management, quality assurance and product development.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 20 horizontal dotted lines.



All course enquiries
Freephone: 0800 028 4291
Email: enquiries@cafre.ac.uk
Website: www.cafre.ac.uk

If you require this publication
in an alternative format please
contact College Administration on
Freephone 0800 028 4291 quoting
reference Apprenticeships 2021

Enniskillen Campus

2 Mullaghmeen Road
Levaghy
Enniskillen
BT74 4GF

Greenmount Campus

45 Tirgracy Road
Muckamore
Antrim
BT41 4PS

Loughry Campus

76 Dungannon Road
Cookstown
BT80 9AA

www.cafre.ac.uk

DiscoverCAFRE

