

# Kickstart Scheme Info Sheet for Employers

## Background

The Kickstart programme provides funding for organisations to create new jobs for 16-24 year olds who receive Universal Credit and who are at risk of long-term unemployment. It is open to employers in **England, Scotland, and Wales**.

## Important Dates

**Deadline to apply for funding:** Midday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

**Deadline for any successful jobs to begin:** 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

## Criteria for Employers

### Company

There is **no** size restriction – companies of any size can apply for Kickstart funding.

### Job

There are some restrictions on what jobs are eligible for funding:

- The job(s) must be **new**. They must not replace existing or planned vacancies, or cause any reduction in hours or termination of any existing employee, apprentice or contractor.
- The job must be a **minimum** of 25 hours per week for six months. It must pay **at least** the National Minimum / Living Wage.
- It should require only basic training and help the individual become more employable. For example by helping them with writing a CV, preparing for interviews, or building workplace experience.

## What Employers Receive

Employers can apply for funding which will cover:

- 100% of the National Minimum / Living Wage, depending on the age of the participant, for 25 hours per week for a total of six months.
- Associated employers National Insurance contributions.
- Minimum automatic enrolment pension contributions.

Employers will also receive £1,500 for each job. This is for covering setup costs and for supporting the young person to develop their skills. You could use this money for:

- Training and employability support
- IT equipment and software
- Uniform or PPE

## How it Works

You can apply yourself or through a Kickstart Gateway, such as CC Skills. Once your application has been confirmed you or your Gateway will provide job descriptions to the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) who will pass these to local job centres. The job centre will then match your job advert with suitable candidates. Suitable candidates can then apply and you can interview them as normal.

More information is available via the Government's dedicated website [here](#).