

Architectural Assistant Degree Apprenticeship

Level 6

Typical duration: 48 months
Delivery Method: Day Release

Architectural assistants are part-trained architects and experienced members in the built environment profession. Architectural assistants work with architects and other professionals such as engineers, to competently design buildings and deliver architectural projects across scheme phases. This course builds on the rich heritage of Wolverhampton and its unique geographic position within the Black Country region of the UK, seen by many as the birthplace of the industrial revolution. Throughout your studies, you will explore how architecture can shape national and international communities and culture, including developing a deep understanding of the responsibility to create sustainable solutions.

Working within a studio environment will allow you to develop vocational architectural skills and develop your intellectual capabilities to explore theory and critically evaluate your work and that of others, allowing you to work in the public, private or voluntary sectors.

(The programme is Architects Registration Board (ARB) part 1 prescribed and a Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Candidate course for Part 1)



Job roles/Occupations

On completion of the Apprenticeship, as a Part I Architectural Assistant you will be responsible for supporting the design team in the delivery of projects by undertaking a range of architectural duties and ensuring their effective and timely delivery. In this capacity, your role will include (but will not be limited to):

- assisting in the preparation of drawings, schedules and specifications
- carrying out administrative tasks relevant to the production of architectural information
- keeping abreast of developments in design, construction and legislative aspects of building and design
- dealing with client queries and escalate when required
- liaising with colleagues on architectural matters to meet the project requirements

Benefits

Through the combined use of practical and educational experience and support, the Architectural Assistant Apprenticeship enables you to:

- generate and effectively communicate comprehensive architectural designs focus on the technologies, information management, health and safety, and sustainability to deliver projects
- evaluate and articulate the cultural histories and aesthetic theories of architecture, including how the arts can influence and inform architectural design
- understand the role of the architect within the construction industry, including their legal responsibilities the requirement to maintain professional development and their relationship to others within the sector
- develop a systematic understanding of comprehensive design briefs and manage projects to ensuring that financial, environmental, social, and economic sustainability techniques are applied to the overall project
- demonstrate the ability to synergise aesthetic form, including analysing alternative systems to specify safe, sustainable and cost-effective solutions.

How it works

This Architectural Assistant Apprenticeship provides a new entry programme to the architectural profession, leading to a qualification and progression pathway to become a Registered Architect in the UK. The Architectural Assistant apprenticeship standard is aligned with the current ARB and RIBA Part 1 criteria.

The duration for the Degree Apprenticeship is 48 months, upon successful completion you will have gained a BSc (Hons) Architecture and have completed professional reviews qualifying you to work as an Architectural Assistant.

The Apprenticeship requires the company you work for to release you one day per week during term-time to attend University to study for the degree element of the programme.

Skills and training will be delivered through a combination of learning methods including lectures, tutorials, seminar/workshops, online learning and employer-led projects.

The University will work with the employer to ensure that the 20% off-the-job training requirement of the Apprenticeship is met.

The course requires that all modules are successfully completed along with an end-point assessment (ARB/RIBA Part 1) in order to complete the Apprenticeship. The end point assessment consists of a presentation supported by a portfolio and a professional interview.

This Apprenticeship enables those apprentices wishing to become architects to progress to the Level 7 Architect Apprenticeship or other ARB prescribed Part 2 and Part 3 courses upon successful completion if they so wish.

Qualifications

The Degree Apprenticeship incorporates vocational and academic elements. On successful completion of the programme you will achieve a BSc (Hons) Architecture degree Part 1.

In order to become an architect in the UK, individuals must hold ARB (Architectural Registration Board) prescribed qualifications at Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 levels and register with the ARB. This Apprenticeship fulfils Part 1.

Only ARB-prescribed qualifications meet the standards that lead to registration as an architect in the UK. Only those who are appropriately qualified and registered with ARB can use the title 'Architect' in the UK.

Entry requirements

You will need to be currently employed - working for a minimum of 30 hours per week.

Entry requirements will be set by individual employers in conjunction with the University. A minimum of 128 UCAS points at A/AS level (or equivalent).

Ideally applicants should have GCSE English and Maths at grade C+/4 or above in English and maths or equivalent (if applicants cannot evidence achievement then level 2 functional skills in maths and/or English will need to be completed as part of the apprenticeship programme).

Previous relevant experience may also be considered as an alternative.

All prospective apprentices will be asked to assemble/submit a portfolio of work and to attend an interview to assess suitability.

Fees and funding

For employers with a payroll below £3 million:

The Government will pay 95% of the cost of the Apprenticeship training and assessment for Apprentices of any age, for employers who will not be paying the Apprenticeship levy. You may also be eligible for extra employer incentives.

For employers with a payroll above £3 million:

Employers will be able to use their Apprenticeship Levy contribution towards the cost of the Apprenticeship using their digital account. We will agree a payment schedule and discuss funding availability before you start your Apprenticeships and ensure the cost to your business is clear upfront.

Register your interest today!

Call: 0800 953 3222

Email: apprenticeshiphub@wlv.ac.uk
wlv.ac.uk/apprenticeships