Skills 4 Dental

Employer Incentives for Apprenticeship in 2026

What you need to know

The Government is making apprenticeships more financially attractive for employers than at any point in the last decade.

For many under 25s, training is fully or majority funded - and eligible employers can also benefit from National Insurance relief on top. There has never been a better time to invest in your workforce.

THE THREE EMPLOYER INCENTIVES

Young Apprentice Payment

Applies when you recruit:

- An apprentice ages 16-18, or
- 19-24 year olds with an EHCP or care leaver status
- Available for employers of all sizes
- Payments are processed by the training provider

Payment available
£1,000
from now

Payment is available now for eligible apprenticeships

Non-Levy Hiring Grant

Applies when a non-levy paying employer employs and recruits an additional apprentice aged 16-24.

- Payments are processed by the training provider
- The apprentice can have joined the employer up to 3 months before their apprenticeship training start date

Available from
£2,000
October 2026

Youth Jobs Grant

Applies when you hire an 18-24 year old who has been:

- On Universal Credit, and
- Seeking work for six months or more
- Available for employers of all sizes
- Payments made to the employer directly

Available from
£3,000
June 2026

HOW THE INCENTIVES WORK TOGETHER

Youth Jobs Grant
Helps employers hire young people furthest from the labour market

Jobs Guarantee Placements
Provides work experience and support to build skills and confidence

Apprenticeship Incentives
Supports progression into sustained, skilled employment

Leads To
Pathways into skilled, sustained work for young people

Need help checking eligibility?

Speak to Skills4Dental today.

0161 794 0528
www.skills4group.co.uk
info@skills4group.co.uk

HOW SKILLS4DENTAL CAN HELP

Apprenticeship Delivery
High-quality training across the dental sector. Skills4Dental is NEBDN-accredited.

Recruitment Support
We help you attract, assess and onboard the right apprentices.

Funding Guidance
Our funding specialists help you maximise incentives and navigate the rules.

Ongoing Support
Dedicated account management and learner support throughout the apprenticeship journey.

Skills 4 Dental

Apprenticeship Funding

Whether you already pay an apprenticeship levy, do not need to pay one, or need support accessing additional funding, Skills4Dental has the experienced team to unlock the potential of apprenticeships in your business.

1

You pay the apprenticeship levy

You'll receive funds to invest in training and assessing your apprentices.

2

You do not pay the apprenticeship levy

You contribute 5%, the government funds 95%, or with a levy transfer your training could cost you nothing at all.

3

Additional funding

You can receive £1,000 to support your apprentice in the workplace.

EXPERT APPRENTICESHIP FUNDING ADVICE FROM SKILLS4DENTAL

The financial aspects of apprenticeships depend on whether your company pays the apprenticeship levy. Skills4Dental has years of experience advising on the correct route for your business. Contact us to understand which bracket will meet your needs and how easy it is to apply.

You pay the apprenticeship levy

If you pay the apprenticeship levy, you'll receive funds to invest in training and assessing your apprentices. The government currently still adds the 10% top-up to monthly funds entering your Apprenticeship Service account, but this benefit is being abolished on 1 August 2026.

You do not pay the apprenticeship levy

As a non-levy employer, you contribute 5% towards training and assessment costs. You'll need to agree on a payment schedule with your chosen training provider and make payments directly to them. The government will fund the remaining 95% of training costs, up to the funding band maximum, by directly paying the training provider.

National insurance savings

Apprentice employers are exempt from paying the 15% National Insurance contribution for apprentices under the age of 25. Employers save an average of £1,000 to £2,500 per year, potentially saving your business on average £2,000 per year.

Additional funding

You can receive £1,000 to support your apprentice in the workplace if, at the start of their apprenticeship training, they fall into one of the following categories:

- 16 to 18 years old (or 15 years old if the apprentice's 16th birthday is between the last Friday of June and 31 August)
- 19 to 24 years old with an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- 19 to 24 years old and have been in care

You have the flexibility to use this £1,000 to support your apprentice in any way that relates to their employment, including their salary, travel costs, or uniform.

You can find out more on the **gov.uk** website.

Further assistance available

- Complimentary recruitment at no cost when Skills4Dental delivers the apprenticeship
- Training costs can be fully covered through a levy transfer, if eligible, or if not, it is just 5% of the total value that needs to be paid.