

# Apprenticeship Funding

The following statements aim to support clients navigate the apprenticeship funding landscape and signpost to further information.

1. Apprenticeships are a devolved policy. This means that authorities in each of the UK nations manage their own apprenticeship programmes, and therefore different funding systems exist across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.
2. These statements relate to **England only**.
3. For support across the devolved nations we recommend contacting the relevant authority below.
  - a. [Northern Ireland Executive](#)
  - b. [Skills Development Scotland](#)
  - c. [Welsh Government](#)
4. As part of Apprenticeship policy reform in England, the Apprenticeship levy was introduced in April 2017. Guidance on when to pay the levy and how to report payments is available [here](#).
5. Introduction of the levy was accompanied by a new apprenticeship funding system in England that took effect in May 2017. Income generated through the levy underpins this system. The policy paper available [here](#) explains governments' approach to funding apprenticeship training and assessment in England from May 2017.
6. There are different mechanisms in place to support levied and non-levied employers access apprenticeship funding.
7. Levied employers can access a return on levy paid through an account with the Digital Apprenticeship Service. Levy paying employers can set up their account and access further information [here](#).
8. Funds in an employers' digital apprenticeship service account must be spent in line with the funding policy and rules set by the Education & Skills Funding Agency. These rules are available [here](#). The funding bands referred to within these rules can be accessed [here](#).
9. Non-levied employers may be able to access funding through training providers who have contracted with the Education & Skills Funding Agency. Non-levied employers should discuss funding potential directly with their chosen training provider. Training providers must be approved on the Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers before they can deliver apprenticeship training. The register is available [here](#).

10. Queries relating to apprenticeship funding should be directed to the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) who can provide the most up to date information on their funding policy and the correct interpretation of this. Contact details appropriate to the query can be accessed through the links above.