Skills Bootcamps

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Introduction

Skills Bootcamps are non-contracted provision programmes available across England. The aim of this provision is to support participants into a better job, or for unemployed participants, to find a job that utilises their new skills. For self-employed participants the provision offers new opportunities for their business.

Skills Bootcamps offer flexible courses of up to 16 weeks with the opportunity to build up sector-specific skills and fast-track to an interview with a local employer.

The actions that claimants will be expected to take part in are unique to each Skills Bootcamp programme.

Skills Bootcamps are available in the following areas/industries:

- construction
- digital
- manufacturing and engineering
- Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) driving

This list is not exhaustive.

For a list of the Skills Bootcamps available across England see: List of Skills Bootcamps.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for a place on a Skills Bootcamps, claimants must:

- be aged 19 or over
- have the right to live and work in the UK
- live in England

One of the following must also apply:

- they are employed and looking to upskill
- they are self-employed and looking to upskill
- they are returning to work after a break (for example, caring for children or family members)

Skills Bootcamps are aimed at claimants who are job ready and very close to returning to the labour market.

The purpose is for participants to be successful at an interview with an employer by the end of the Skills Bootcamp, which will be 16 weeks or less. If the claimant is far from the labour market and requires further intensive support to move them closer to the labour market, other provision should be considered.

Some Skills Bootcamps have additional eligibility criteria. The claimant should always check directly with the training provider.

Continuing entitlement to Universal Credit and Claimant commitments

Claimants remain entitled to Universal Credit while they are participating in a Skills Bootcamp.

Claimants in the Universal Credit Intensive Work Search (IWS) regime can take part in full-time Skills Bootcamp opportunities up to 16 weeks in length. Training for claimants in other conditionality groups should be considered as per existing guidance.

Skills Bootcamps are flexible in length and in the number of hours of learning. They can be full-time, and the Claimant Commitment must be tailored based on the number of hours that the claimant is taking part in the training.

Further information

Claimants can register their interest in Skills Bootcamps using the List of Skills Bootcamps.

Further information about Skills Bootcamps in various regions: Skills Bootcamps training providers.

Careers and training advice: Careers advice - National Careers Service.