Frequently Asked Questions

How much will I earn?

Wage rates vary from employer to employer. Generally an apprentice in training aged 16-19 will earn the National Minimum Wage (hourly rate) of £2.68 per hour. Some contractors who are JIB members will pay the JIB rate.

How long will it take for me to qualify?

The programme is 42 months from start to finish but can be customised to suit individual abilities, however would not be less than three years.

Do I need to be employed to be on the course?

Yes, the Advanced Apprenticeship is only open to employed people. You will earn a wage whilst training. The apprentice training is fully Government funded for 16-18 year olds and part funded for 19-23, loans are available for 24+.

Is there an age limit?

There are places available for 16-18 year olds, 19-24 year olds and 25 plus but funding will vary for over 19.

What qualifications must I have to join the programme?

Due to the nature of the Advanced Apprenticeship Programme we offer, candidates should hold GCSE grades A*-C (or equivalent) in Maths, English, and Science.

How long do I spend at college?

During the 3 years you will attend college, a total of 10 weeks on block release or 36 days on day release. This will gain you the City & Guilds 2357 Diploma in Electrical Installation Technology at Level 3.

Is BET the same as College?

At BET you will gain the Advanced Apprenticeship framework enabling you to be graded as an electrician. Many colleges may only give you the Technical Certificate. You will not be eligible for grading as an electrician without the AM2 test certificate and the NVQ Level 3.

Also, you will be employed and earning a wage from day one, trained on site by your employer and assessed by BET towards the NVQ Level 3.

Apprenticeships

City & Guilds Approved Centre

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Birmingham B19 3NR
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info@bet.gb.com
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Advanced Electrical Apprenticeships

birmingham electrical training

Apprentice Information

Birmingham Electrical Training

BET was formed by contractors for contractors and has been providing electrical installation training for apprentices since 1991 delivering Advanced Apprenticeships to NVQ Level 3 in electrical installation.

BET is a nationally recognised company which is supported and fully funded by the Skills Funding Agency (SFA).

Our dedicated training centre provides excellent facilities in supporting both the practical and theory aspects of the qualification. Our centre comprises of a dedicated IT suite, fully equipped class rooms, fully functioning workshop and our own AM2 centre.

'Off the job' training is provided by 5 tutors who have a vast electrical experience within the electrical industry and are dedicated to passing on their knowledge to the next generation of electricians.

Training in the workplace is provided by employers and is overseen by BET's team of training officers who have a wealth of knowledge and provide constant support and guidance throughout the apprenticeship.

As the leading provider of electrical installation training in Birmingham we have developed strong links with local employers.

birmingham
electrical training

What is an Advanced Electrical Apprenticeship?

Advanced apprentices work towards work-based learning qualifications. It is the academic equivalent to two A levels, and students will have to demonstrate both a good practical grasp of the subject and a thorough understanding of technical elements.

The main parts of the Advance Apprenticeship are as follows:

C&G 2357 Diploma in Electrotechnical Technology

The advance apprenticeship lasts for 42 months (although previous experience and qualifications may reduce this). Training will be provided to enable completion of the NVQ Level 3 in Electrotechnical Installation which includes the City & Guilds 2357 Certificate in Electrical Installation Technology, Functional Skills and finally the industry's own practical performance assessment, the AM2 test, which is normally taken towards the end of the fourth year. An example of the timescale for delivery of training is shown opposite.

NVQ

An NVQ Level 3 electrical installation qualification is a portfolio of evidence gathered from your workplace and assessed by an experienced Training Officer on an on-going basis. As from September 2013 this will be available via an online logbook which can be accessed via smart phones and laptops.

Industry Assessment

AM2 test at the end of the apprenticeship.

Year 1

301 – Health & Safety (54 Guided Learning Hours, 9 days)

302 – Environmental Technologies (36 GLH, 6 days)

303 – Overseeing & Organising the work (56 GLH, 10 days)

304 – Planning & Selection for an Installation (76 GLH, 13 days)

309 – Electrical Principles (106 GLH, 18 days)

Year 2

305 – Preparation & Installation of Wiring and Equipment (96 GLH, 16 days)

306 – Termination & Connecting (86 GLH, 15 days)

309 – Electrical Principles (106 GLH, 18 days)

Year 3

307 – Inspecting, Testing & Commissioning (78 GLH, 13 days)

308 – Diagnoses & Fault Correction (58 , 10 days)

On completion of the apprenticeship an application to the Joint Industry Board (JIB) for grading as an electrician can be applied for.

Employment

In order to undertake an apprenticeship you will need to be employed as an electrical apprentice with a local company to enable you to enter on the programme. This will enable you to gain the practical experience required for the training framework.

Employers who will provide you with onsite training are made up of local and national electrical contractors.

All employers that are linked to BET are vetted by a dedicated department within BET which ensure that current Health & Safety and Equal Opportunity policies are in place. They also ensure the company can offer the full range of work which is required for you to complete the requirements of the NVQ Level 3.

From the day you commence employment you will receive a salary, paid to you directly from your employer.

What does an electrician do?

Electricians install, maintain and test electrical systems, equipment and appliances under strict safety rules.

As an electrician in the construction industry, you will play a vital role in the installation testing, fault rectification and commissioning of different electrical systems. Examples are extra low voltage alarms and mains voltage power and lighting. An electrician will also work on a variety of equipment such as distribution boards, switches, isolators, motors and their control systems, air conditioning and heating/ventilation equipment to name just a few. You will ensure equipment is installed in line with specific manufacturers' instructions to a high standard and within contractual deadlines. Installation electricians do not generally repair TVs, washing machines, or other domestic equipment.

Job Requirements

An electrician needs to be in good health and good colour perception; you must be capable of working with a team so communication skills are important. A working knowledge of science and mathematics is also necessary as you will be working from scale drawings, specifications and carrying out cable sizing calculations.

Electricians work with their hands so they need to be practical people capable and skilled with power tools, hand tools and sensitive test instrumentation.

Electricity can kill so safety is paramount; you must work with a methodical approach, as poor workmanship could have fatal consequences.

Working Environment

Electricians work in a variety of environments, from outdoor construction sites in all weather conditions to working indoors in domestic (housing), commercial (shops and offices), industrial (factories and production units) and agricultural (farms and horticultural) buildings.

Site conditions can be hot and humid to freezing cold, depending on the season, and from dusty, dirty and noisy to clean and quiet, depending on the location.

The contracting industry is a journeying industry, so it will be necessary to travel outside your local area to get to work, or to stay overnight in accommodation for the duration of the contract, and possibly work unsociable hours. Although not a requirement, a driving licence will be very useful. Working at heights on different forms of access equipment, for example scaffolding, powered access towers, trestles and different types of ladders is often a requirement of the job. You may also have to work in cramped conditions or confined spaces.

All work in the construction sector is subject to Health & Safety regulations and PPE is mandatory on all construction sites.

Your employer will issue PPE, which you may be required to wear a safety helmet, steel toecap footwear, overalls, protective glasses or goggles, dust mask, ear defenders and high visibility work wear.

An electrician can be associated with a variety of different jobs and the nature of their work depends largely on their specialist training and experience.

Areas of work can include:

- Electrical installation in buildings and industry.
- Health & Safety standards.
- In-service inspection and testing of portable appliances.
- Fire, safety and security systems, including CCTV.
- IT, data and networks.
- Telecommunications networks.
- Process control systems, building management systems.

Application Process

Our dedicated team of recruitment administrators will support applicants through the application process.

The application process involves:

- Completion of an Application form.
- Attend our centre to complete an online assessment (Numeracy/English). All candidates must pass this assessment to be eligible for the apprenticeship scheme.
- Although all applicants are advised that they need to find employment with a contractor we have strong links with local contractors with whom we are in constant contact with.
- Once employment is found we can ensure all the necessary paperwork is completed to start a 42 month electrical apprenticeship.