

Accelerated Apprenticeships Programme Fund Webinar FAQ's

Question		Answer
3/6/26 1	Are you already speaking with providers in these geographic areas?	The New Entrant Support Team in each region have been in contact with their network of providers to share details of this launch webinar and raise awareness of this funding opportunity.
2	Would Drylining be considered as a potential accelerated apprenticeship standard?	If the demand was there from employers and homebuilders in the region, then it would be considered as an option for delivery.
3	Can you supply a full list of eligible standards, and these slides as well?	At present, the high demand construction occupations within homebuilding are Bricklaying, Carpentry & Joinery, Groundworks, Plastering, Painting & Decorating, Roofing, Wall & Floor Tiling. As mentioned, if there is demand for an alternative provision in a particular region, then this can be considered. The slides will be available on the CITB Website from tomorrow after 10am.
4	Are you able to share what the future tranche areas will be and a timeline?	Future tranche regions are still to be determined through the same due diligence process we took to determine the initial launch areas. We will be looking at early 2027, 2028 and 2029 for the next launch webinars.
5	As a provider that delivers apprenticeships in Scotland and England, but not currently delivering construction and related apprenticeships in England, is there an opportunity to develop a delivery model if we meet all of the criteria listed?	We would be looking to work with providers with a proven track record delivering construction apprenticeships in England and in particular the regions identified for this launch. If you are currently not delivering construction apprenticeships in England, it would be difficult for you to evidence this proven experience.
6	Can you confirm what levels specifically the apprenticeships are for? Does this opportunity include degree apprenticeships?	We would be looking for delivery of Level 2 and Level 3 construction trade apprenticeships. This funding opportunity would not support degree apprenticeships.
7	Do you have to be located within one of the first 5 regions to apply?	Yes, you would need to be located in one of the specified regions to apply.
8	Can the providers be national or do they have to be based in the regions identified.	Yes, you would need to be located in one of the specified regions to apply, with support links to local / combined authorities and major homebuilders sites.
9	Can you confirm if the funding for these accelerated apprenticeships will come from additional	The initial programme set up funding will be funded by CITB. The accelerated apprenticeship provider funding will be funded through government via levy. CITB

	government funding? Or is it funded by the levy etc?	Apprenticeship grants will apply for CITB registered employers.
11	The invite email identified Bedfordshire/Hertfordshire as a region, but the slide only showed Bedfordshire for this area. Can you confirm if Hertfordshire is in scope as a region?	Yes, Bedfordshire / Hertfordshire region is one of the 5 confirmed regions for this initial launch.
12	Link to CITB website where all information required for applications will be held from 10am Thursday 4 th June.	https://www.citb.co.uk/funding-support/funding/funded-projects#Accelerated-Apprenticeships-programme
9/6/26 13	Are industry partners/employers on board from the start of the program or would a provider be expected to find the employers and candidates?	The model has been developed following dialogue with government, engagement with stakeholders including HBF, NHBC and homebuilding employers and a thorough assessment of the scale of the problem. The proposed solution draws on elements successful in current delivery- such as the significant impact of CITB New Entrant Support Team (NEST) support and on the success of fast-track delivery models for apprenticeships with high achievement rates on existing NHBC programmes. Each successful recipient will be required to engage and recruit their own employers and apprentices, with CITB NEST Team support if required. As described in the launch webinar, each application must be supported by a large homebuilder with a live development in the region, and local / combined authority by way of endorsement / letters of support.
14	Can we have the extent of the DFE involvement and if they are aligned?	DFE have been involved in discussions from the start and are supportive of this intervention.
16/6/26 15	We have already set our curriculum delivery plan for the next academic year, this includes the apprenticeships, which has been conveyed to our employer base, so amending to a block	We recognise that curriculum delivery models for 2026/27 may have largely been finalised and communicated to employers, which makes a shift to block release delivery challenging at this stage. Whilst block release is a

	<p>release model this year would be difficult. Is there any flexibility around this?</p>	<p>preferred approach within the accelerated model, there may be scope to explore blended or transitional delivery models in year one, provided the programme still demonstrates acceleration principles. Any proposal would need to clearly evidence how delivery is being adapted to shorten time to competence and improve outcomes versus traditional models, even if full block release is not immediately achievable. We would not expect cohorts starting in September 2026 to be adopting this delivery model, however, if possible, we would like to see some form of block release delivery in year 1, even if a smaller cohort, to trial and learn best practice from with a plan to fully embed this into year 2 delivery.</p>
16	<p>We feel the timings to complete an application, which is endorsed by a LA and major house builder will be tight. Would CITB consider moving the application closing date back.</p>	<p>We acknowledge the concern regarding the tight turnaround for applications, particularly where Local Authority and major employer endorsement is required. At present, the timelines are driven by programme delivery requirements, so there is limited flexibility on extending the current deadline. Early engagement evidence and intent to partner is likely to be acceptable at application stage, rather than fully formalised agreements. However, if your bid is successful, we would need to see written confirmation of these endorsements and partnerships presented prior to any funding agreements being signed as this is a key component of the fund as stated in the guidance document. There will be a submission deadline of 5pm on Tuesday 28th July for these written confirmations.</p>
17	<p>Would the 42 starts be classified from contract commencement in September 26 to August 27. The</p>	<p>The expectation of 42 starts relates to delivery across the funding period, but there is recognition that the first cohort</p>

	<p>presentation eludes to the first cohort starting within 6 months of the funding agreement being signed, which means we could take our 1st intake in January 27. But we wouldn't envisage this being anywhere close to 42 and the next intake would be from the following academic year in September 27.</p>	<p>must typically commence within 6 months of contract signature, which in this case could realistically be January - March 2027. It is understood that initial cohorts are unlikely to reach full volume. Therefore, a phased recruitment profile is acceptable, so the remaining starts by September 2027 would be fine.</p>
18	<p>The application form states "If your targets are below those anticipated by CITB, please explain why this differs?" – does this mean we could provide a profile which comes in below 42 in year 1 but exceeds in year 2?</p>	<p>Yes, the wording in the application form does allow for flexibility. Providers can propose a lower volume in year one, provided there is a strong rationale (e.g. mobilisation, curriculum transition, employer pipeline development). This should be clearly explained, alongside a profile that demonstrates growth in year two and beyond, potentially exceeding annual expectations to balance delivery. The emphasis will be on the overall impact, scalability, and credibility of the delivery model, rather than strict adherence to 42 starts in the first year alone.</p>