

Award and Classification:

The results of candidates who have successfully completed the Foundation Degree shall be graded by order of merit as Pass with Distinction, Pass with Commendation or Pass. The assessment results for the final level of the programme (Level 5) shall determine the overall grading. The weighting of each module's contribution to the final result shall be determined by the module's credit value. (See table in section 18). The following shall be the minimum overall percentages used to determine the final grading of candidates:

Pass with Distinction	70%
Pass with Commendation	60%
Pass	40%

What support will the College provide?

To ensure that South West College fully meets its obligations under the Higher Level Apprenticeship programme, the College will appoint a Programme Support Officer (PSO) who will have responsibility for supporting HLA in the workplace. The PSO will act as a conduit between the College as the provider, and the employer, and will undertake all programme induction activities with the Higher Level Apprentices and their employer. For the duration of the HLA and the employer's participation in the programme the PSO will remain as the key contact point for administrative matters.

Work-based mentoring will be used to support the learning process for HLAs and will be particularly important in the Work-Based Learning Project modules. For such modules, it is anticipated that the WBM and the Course Director for the Foundation Degree will provide a supportive role

The delivery of the Higher Level Apprenticeship programme will be delivered through a blended approach and students can also log on remotely from their workplace or home to access learning materials and course content.

SMART Development Voucher

As an enhancement to the new Higher Level Apprenticeship programme being offered by South West College, a SMART Development Voucher will be available for each of the businesses participating in the programme. This Voucher will be offered to each business and will allow access to the facilities within the innovation centres within the college covering areas including product design, digital media and renewable technologies.

Each Voucher will allow the participating business to access up to two days of assistance from the College's Innovation Centre team which may be used to begin the investigation into a new business innovation activity such as product and service design, prototyping, testing, R&D scoping. Sectors include engineering, construction, energy, IT, Digital Media and Professional Services.

HLA Innovation Workshops

South West College Higher Level Apprentices will have direct access to half-day and full-day Innovation Workshops in the College's start-of-the-art Centres in areas such as

- 3D printing
- CNC Machining
- Digital Fabrication
- E-commerce
- Social Media Marketing
- Sustainable Construction
- Design Thinking
- Intellectual Property
- Creative Problem Solving
- Photoshop and InDesign
- CE Marking

Technical mentoring support will also be available directly to students who are working on innovating and developing the product lines of employers.

How much will it cost?

South West College has secured funding for up to 15 places through the Department for the Economy, therefore there are no fees attached to this programme. This will allow the Higher Level Apprentice to start their highly skilled career without the student debt that many university students experience, and with the added bonus of gaining a wage.



Higher Level
Apprenticeship
(Foundation Degree)
in Renewable and
Sustainable Technology



i For further information please contact:

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www.swc.ac.uk/recruitsmart



Higher Level Apprenticeship (Foundation Degree) in Renewable and Sustainable Technology



Core Qualification Foundation Degree in Building Services and Renewable Energy; OR Foundation Degree in Energy, Environment and Sustainability; OR Foundation Degree in Engineering (Wind Turbine Technology)

Awarding Body Ulster University or Queen's University Belfast

Course Director **Foundation Degree in Building Services and Renewable Energy**

Patrick Davis (Dungannon Campus) (patrick.davis@swc.ac.uk)

John Moss (Omagh Campus) (john.moss@swc.ac.uk)

Stephen Moss (Enniskillen Campus) (stephen.moss@swc.ac.uk)

Foundation Degree in Energy Environment and Sustainability

John Moore (Omagh Campus) (john.moore@swc.ac.uk)

Foundation Degree in Engineering (Wind Turbine Technology)

Mark McGuigan (Omagh) (mark.mcguigan@swc.ac.uk)

Duration 24 – 36 months

Campus Location **Foundation Degree in Building Services and Renewable Energy**

South West College Dungannon, Omagh and Enniskillen Campuses

Foundation Degree in Energy, Environment and Sustainability

South West College Omagh Campus

Foundation Degree in Engineering (Wind Turbine Technology)

South West College Omagh Campus

What are the benefits of a HLA?

The Higher Level Apprenticeships programme is widely recognised as the best combination of on the job training and employee higher level study available. These unique programmes offer employees the opportunity to gain a third level qualification, a Foundation Degree, while in employment and working to develop industry related skills that benefit their employer and their career progression.

- Clear progression routes.
- Develop existing staff.
- Attract higher calibre staff.
- Train the way your business works.

Higher apprenticeships allow young people and adults to earn while they learn at the highest level and progress into higher skilled occupations.

Employee benefits include:

- The potential to achieve graduate and postgraduate-level qualifications whilst learning and earning in a real business.
- The chance to gain professional accreditation and membership.
- A unique, new way of developing professional-level, job specific skills while remaining in employment and earning a salary.
- New opportunities for career progression
- A clear pathway to achieving their ambitions in the workplace.
- Higher earning capacity, recognition and status.

Higher apprenticeships deliver on many levels for business.

The benefits include:

- Meet the unique needs of your business.
- Increase your productivity.
- Recruit from a larger talent pool.
- Fill your higher level skills gaps.

Who should apply?

Any Employer who wishes an employee to upskill or reskill by undertaking a Level 5 qualification whilst in work in a particular industry or sector should contact South West College. Students who are looking for full time employment and opportunities to develop their skills whilst undertaking a higher Level 5 qualification should contact South West College.

Entry Requirements

Applicants must satisfy the general UCAS tariff entry requirements for the Foundation degree that includes GCSE English and Maths at grade C or above. Numeracy and Communication qualifications at level 2 for some courses may be accepted. For more information on UCAS tariff entry requirements go to <http://www.swc.ac.uk/learn/Qualifications-Explained>

A range of Level 3 entry qualifications are accepted, including A Levels, Access courses, BTEC Awards, European Baccalaureate, International Baccalaureate, and Irish Leaving Certificate.

South West College welcomes applications from industry based candidates who may not possess formal qualifications but who have significant industrial experience. Such candidates may gain admission through the Accredited Prior Experiential Learning Process (APEL) and should speak to the college admissions team, Course Director or the College's HE Co-ordinator Liam Curran liam.curran@swc.ac.uk for further advice.

What involvement is required by employers?

The involvement required from employers is to provide full-time employment for new Higher Level Apprentices or a new job role for existing employees who wish to undertake a Higher Level Apprenticeship. In addition, employers need to support Higher Level Apprentices in terms of study time and provide a work based mentor to support the apprentice if required.

How is the course delivered?

The Foundation Degree qualification of the Higher Level Apprenticeship will be delivered part-time, 2 evenings per week or 1 full day per week. Traditional teaching methods such as lectures, seminars and tutorials will be used. In addition, some elements of the programme will be delivered through blended learning and the College Virtual Academy.

What is the course content?

Participants on the Higher Level Apprenticeship in Renewable and Sustainable Technology will study the following modules:

Foundation Degree in Building Services and Renewable Energy LEVELS 3 & 4:

- Sustainable Construction
- Numerical and Analytical Methods
- Science for Sustainable Building Services
- Emerging Technologies and CADD 1
- Industrial Project and Entrepreneurship

LEVEL 5:

- Work Based Learning

- Mathematics for Engineers
- Building Services Design and Retrofit
- Renewable Energy Technologies Design and Installation
- Design for Sustainable Services (Commercial)
- Project Management
- Micro-generation for Renewable Energies

Foundation Degree in Energy, Environment and Sustainability LEVEL 4:

- Renewable Energy Applications
- Sustainability and the Environment
- Business and Management
- Waste Management
- Engineering Principles
- Wind Turbine Technology
- Biomass and Biofuels Technology

LEVEL 5:

- Business Improvement Techniques
- Environmental Science
- Energy Assessment
- Economics of Renewable Energy Technology
- Environmental Business Planning
- Work Based Learning (double module)

Foundation Degree in Engineering (Wind Turbine Technology) LEVEL 4:

- Mathematics for Engineering
- Engineering Science
- Electrical and Electronic Principals
- Hydraulics and Pneumatics
- Materials and Manufacturing Processes
- Mechanical Technology
- Introduction to Engineering
- CAD and Project

LEVEL 5:

- Safety Practices for Renewable Installations
- Engineering Analysis (Maths 2)
- G, T & U of Electrical Energy
- Site Design for Wind Turbines
- S&E Aspects of Renewable Energy
- Wind Turbine Systems
- PLC
- Work Based Learning

How will the course be assessed?

The Foundation Degree comprises a minimum of 240 credit points, usually at levels 4 and 5, but with a maximum of 40 credit points at level 3. The Foundation Degree is intended for vocational areas of study. It must include at least 40 credit points of work-based learning.

Modules are assessed by coursework and/or examination. Percentage marks are generally used to record student achievement, with modules graded overall as P (pass) or F (fail).