



Greater Manchester is committed to helping our young people into jobs and to assisting employers to make this possible through wage incentives.

As part of a campaign across Greater Manchester, businesses are being encouraged to participate in a number of initiatives to help young people into employment, including financial incentives.

To help you make sense of the national and local offers available, and how to access them, we've put together the following short guide to grants. If you answer yes to any of the following questions you may be able to access that grant when you take on a young person aged 16-24. You can usually access more than one grant at the same time, but we would advise that you check with the contacts below.

1. Do you employ less than 1000 employees and have you not taken on an apprentice in the past year?

*You can access the **National Apprenticeship Service AGE** grant of **£1,500**. Jobs need to last at least the length of the apprenticeship training. This grant cannot be accessed if you are already getting the Youth Contract or Work Choice grant (number 3 and 4 below) for the same young person.*

To find out more contact NAS on 08000 150 600 or [follow this link](#)

2. Are you taking on a 16-24 year old as an apprentice who is unemployed, not in education or training (NEET) and who is a resident of Greater Manchester?

*You can access the **Greater Manchester Commitment** grant of **£750**. Employers can also have the young person working with them on a 'working interview' of up to 8 weeks during which the GM Commitment will pay the young person an allowance, before you take them on. Jobs need to last at least a year. This grant can be accessed in addition to any other grant described in this leaflet.*

To find out more contact the GM Commitment team on 0161 237 4157 or [follow this link](#)

3. Do you want to take on a long-term unemployed 18 to 24 year old?

*As part of the **Youth Contract**, employers are able to take advantage of wage incentives worth up to **£2,275** if they employ a long term unemployed young person for at least 26 weeks. This does not have to be an apprenticeship and can be full or part time (grant is lower for part time). This grant cannot be accessed if you are already getting the AGE Grant (number 1 above) for the same young person.*

To find out more you should contact one of your Greater Manchester Work Programme Providers (G4S/Avanta/Seetec) or [follow this link](#).

4. Are you taking on a young disabled person?

*From July 2012 a payment of up to **£2,275** will be made available for employers who recruit young disabled people through **Work Choice** – a specialist disability employment programme that provides tailored support to help disabled people who have the most complex support needs. This grant cannot be accessed if you are already getting the AGE Grant (number 1 above) for the same young person.*

You can find out more [here](#), or contact The Shaw Trust who manage this programme in Greater Manchester on 0161 953 4457.

Who should be my first point of contact if I have an apprenticeship job vacancy?

We recommend that you telephone the National Apprenticeship Service on 08000 150 600, and they will be able to advise you how to proceed.

Local grants you may also be able to access

1. Are you taking on a 16-24 year old from Greater Manchester into an entry level job?

Through the **GM Commitment** various Councils are offering **£750** to employers who take on a young person who is resident in their borough. This does not have to be an apprenticeship but for any job with training involved.

To find out more please contact GMCommitmentGrant@neweconomymanchester.com

2. Are you an SME taking on a new apprentice who is a Salford resident?

Incentives of between **£1,000** and **£1,500** are available from Salford City Council to support SMEs who are not eligible for the AGE grant (1 above). You do not have to be a Salford based business. More information is available [here](#) or interested employers can call 0161 778 0463 or email jack.loughlin@salford.gov.uk

3. Are you taking on a Middleton resident to a level 3 apprenticeship?

A grant of **£1750** for the employer, and **£500** for the apprentice is available from Rochdale Council to any employer in any location, as long as the apprentice is a Middleton resident who has completed A-Levels.

To find out more please contact Andy Turner on 01706 925099 or andrew.turner@rochdale.gov.uk

4. Are you employing a Tameside resident who is 16 -18 year old and either at risk of becoming, or already NEET?

Tameside Council has launched its 50/50 Apprenticeship Scheme which will provide up to 50 Apprenticeship Grants of **£1000** to employers who meet the above criteria.

More information is available [here](#) or please contact 0161 342 2191

5. Would you be able to offer an Apprenticeship training opportunity to a 16-18 year old who lives in Stockport and has faced challenging circumstances?

Stockport Council has developed an offer to pay the wages of 25 young people who have been chosen to be capable of achieving an Apprenticeship on its Supported Apprenticeship Scheme.

If you would like to find out more about this opportunity please contact 0161 474 2350 or email Apprenticeships@stockport.gov.uk

Examples

- a. SME that hasn't taken on an apprentice in the last 3 years, that now wants to recruit a local (Greater Manchester) 17 year old that isn't working and isn't in school or college (NEET). The job is permanent.

£1,500 + £750 = £2,250 in grants can be awarded

- b. Large employer that wants to take on local apprentices (under the age of 24) that are unemployed. *£750 grant can be awarded for each young person; if recruited from the Work Programme (long term unemployed) an additional £2,275 can be accessed per person. £750 + £2,275 = £3,025 per person*

- c. Small firm that hasn't had an apprentice in the last 3 years that wants to employ an apprentice that is soon to leave school.

£1,500 grant can be accessed