

# Government's Apprenticeship Recovery Package

During these difficult economic times the Department for the Economy has announced a number of measures to try and boost the economy. One of these measures is the launch of two initiatives which will form the Department's Apprenticeship Recovery Package. This package of employer incentives aims to minimise apprenticeship job losses, grow apprenticeship opportunities across Northern Ireland and support apprentices who have been made redundant.

These incentives are listed below and overleaf:

## Apprenticeship Return, Retain and Result initiative

It offers employers up to £3,700 of support for each apprentice they keep on following furlough and retain until they have completed their apprenticeship.

There will be an initial £500 return payment followed by £2,000 for each apprentice kept on for 4 months with a final payment of £1,200 once the apprentice completes their apprenticeship.

## Apprenticeship Recruitment Incentive initiative

This initiative aims to encourage employers to create apprenticeship vacancies for both new apprentices and for those apprentices who have been made redundant.

This scheme offers support of £3,000, to employers, for each new apprenticeship opportunity created between 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2022. (This includes existing employees who start a new role or position and joins an apprenticeship within this time frame).

Apprenticeships are an effective way of attracting new talent and make a valuable contribution to businesses, and so in letting you know about the new apprentice employment incentives we also wanted to remind you what a great asset apprentices can be to business.

### Reasons why you should think about employing an apprentice:

- Hiring an apprentice is a productive and effective way to grow talent and develop a motivated skilled and qualified work force.
- National insurance breaks\* - if you employ an apprentice under 25 yrs old you don't need to pay Class 1 National Insurance contributions (NICs) on their earnings below £827 a week (£43,000 a year).
- Boosts staff retention - by helping build loyalty and reduce employee turnover.
- By hiring an apprentice you'll help the local economy to reduce unemployment and build a future workforce.

## Get in touch

For more information about these new incentives please contact us on:

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Further information can be found at: [www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk](http://www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk)

\* Apprentices must be following an approved apprenticeship

