Modern Apprenticeships in Horticulture
Information for Employers

University of the Highlands and Islands
Argyll College
Would you like to develop an existing member of staff and help them gain an industry recognised qualification? Perhaps you want to bring some new talent into your business? We can help you to get the skills your company needs.

Argyll College UHI are an approved SDS Modern Apprenticeship training provider and we have a range of options for young workers aged 16-24. We offer Modern Apprenticeships in Business and Administration, Horticulture, Engineering and Energy, Hospitality Services and Professional Cookery, Hairdressing, Sport and Health & Social Care.

There are already more than 37,000 young people working, learning and earning as Modern Apprentices. It’s a real success story: 91% of apprentices are still in employment six months after completing their Modern Apprenticeship; and 96% of employers say former apprentices are better equipped to do their job.
Modern Apprenticeships have 3 main components:

1. A Scottish Vocational Qualification or SVQ. Candidates will undertake a range of SQA certified units, learning on the job and being mentored and assessed by one of our assessors/trainers. The Apprentice will build an online portfolio of evidence to support their learning.

2. A Range of Core Skills
   For example Numeracy, Information Technology or Communication. Your apprentice may already possess these qualifications at the appropriate SCQF level.

3. Industry Specific Enhancements – these will be appropriate to the apprentice’s age and job role. These may include: First Aid at Work and Health and Safety at Work
Horticulture Frameworks

MODERN APPRENTICESHIP IN HORTICULTURE
SCQF level 5
This framework incorporates an SVQ 2 in Horticulture which allows the apprentice to gain a broad range of practical experience across your business developing their skills in areas such as crop and plant establishment and care, preparation of growing media, personal development, first aid at work and many others which can be chosen to fit with your business.

This qualification should take around 12 months to complete.

MODERN APPRENTICESHIP IN PRODUCTION HORTICULTURE
SCQF level 5
This framework incorporates an SVQ 2 in Production Horticulture which allows the apprentice to gain a broad range of practical experience across your business developing their skills in areas of production horticulture such as crop and plant establishment and care, pest and diseases control, produce harvesting, personal development, first aid at work and many others which can be chosen to fit with your business.

This qualification should take around 12 months to complete.
MODERN APPRENTICESHIP IN PRODUCTION HORTICULTURE
SCQF level 6
This framework incorporates an SVQ 3 in Production Horticulture which allows the apprentice to gain a broad range of practical experience across your business developing their practical and management skills in areas of production horticulture such as managing resources effectively, monitoring and controlling plant growth, coordinating water and nutrient provision to crops and many others which can be chosen to fit with your business.

This qualification should take around 18 months to complete.
What’s my role in this?

As the employer of a Modern Apprentice you will have certain responsibilities. You’ll need to:

1. Pay your employee at least the current minimum wage for an apprentice of their age – this is set by the UK government: see www.gov.uk for more information.

2. Agree to pay your apprentice for any time required in college for ‘off the job’ training. We’ll discuss with you at the outset how much time this is likely to be.

3. Have an Equal Opportunities Policy in place and take responsibility for the health and safety of your apprentice.

4. Meet with the apprentice and the college tutor to review their progress.

5. Ensure you have the correct facilities for the apprentice to meet their training outcomes – our trainer can help you assess this.

6. It’s also best practice to identify a mentor within your own organisation who can support and encourage your apprentice and help liaise with the college.
What next?

Contact your nearest Argyll College Learning Centre or email Amber.Crowley@uhi.ac.uk to arrange for an initial telephone consultation.

Arran 01770 600 152  Islay 01496 810 130
Campbeltown 01586 559 310  Lochgilphead 01546 600 070
CERC 01631 559 830  Oban 01631 559 500
Dunoon 01369 707 182  Rothesay 01700 501 000
Helensburgh 01631 559 750  Tobermory 01688 302 801