

The Kickstart Scheme provides funding to create new job placements for 16 to 24 year olds on Universal Credit who are at risk of long term unemployment.

**Employers of all sizes can apply for funding which covers:**

- 100% of the [National Minimum Wage](#) (or the [National Living Wage](#) depending on the age of the participant) for 25 hours per week for a total of 6 months
- associated [employer National Insurance contributions](#)
- Employers can spread the start date of the job placements up until the end of December 2021.

**Funding**

**£1,500 per job placement**

The employer will get £1,500 funding per job placement. This is for setup costs and to support the young person develop their employability skills.

If you get someone else to do some of this for you, such as your Kickstart gateway, **you'll have to agree how you will share this money.**

**Kickstart Scheme wages and related costs:**

This funding covers:

- 100% of [National Minimum Wage](#) (or the [National Living Wage](#) depending on the age of the participant) for 25 hours per week for a total of 6 months
- associated [employer National Insurance contributions](#)

**Employers can pay a higher wage and for more hours but the funding will not cover this.**

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) will send the funding to the Kickstart Gateway. They will be responsible for giving the funding to you.

**What?**

**Job placement criteria**

The job placements created with Kickstart Scheme funding must be new jobs.

The job placements **must not:**

- replace existing or planned vacancies
- cause existing employees, apprentices or contractors to lose work or reduce their working hours

**The job placements must:**

- be a minimum of 25 hours per week, for 6 months
- pay at least the [National Minimum Wage or the National Living Wage](#) for the employee's age group
- only require basic training

**Expectations:**

For each job placement you must help the young person become more employable. This could include:

- looking for long-term work, including career advice and setting goals
- support with curriculum vitae (CV) and interview preparations
- developing their skills in the workplace

The young person may be able to move to another employment scheme when they've finished their **6-month Kickstart Scheme** job placement. It is anticipated that these candidates should be considered for Apprenticeship roles within the organisation once the Kickstart programme has been completed.