

Machining Technician (ST1305) Level 3 Apprenticeship

The broad purpose of the occupation is to produce complex and precision work by machining components. Components are machined from metal or specialist materials using conventional or CNC machine tools. Machining Technicians interpret information and plan their activities.

They also set up, operate and adjust machine tool settings. When using CNC equipment, they can produce, prove and validate programs. They inspect components and machinery, report issues and support continuous improvement activities. They typically work in a manufacturing environment.

An employee in this occupation will be responsible for the quality and accuracy of their work. They also must work efficiently and be productive in the work they undertake. They must work both individually and as part of a larger team. They must work within the relevant health, safety and environmental regulations. This includes the use of appropriate protective clothing and equipment. They are responsible for the correct use and housekeeping of machinery, tools and equipment. Apprentices will gain EAL L3 Extended diploma in Machining (Development Knowledge)

Expected course duration

4 years.

College attendance

Year 1 – 1 day attendance, Year 2 – 1 day attendance, Year 3 – 1 day attendance, Year 4 – Workplace assessments

Day release intake

September 2025

When can the apprentice start employment?

July/August.

When can the apprenticeship training start?

September.

Course content

Areas covered include:

- Hand Fitting
- Milling and Turning
- Engineering communication
- Properties and applications of Engineering materials, Engineering Mathematics

Knowledge, skills and behaviours developed:

- preparing work area; using health and safety controls

- Use of information and documentation, including drawings and risk assessments
- Selecting appropriate tools and work holding devices; prepare and setup Conventional machine including tool setting
- Performing machining operation; setting and adjusting operating parameters; selecting speeds and feeds; combining different operations to produce complex components with different features using one type of machine
- work environment
- tools and equipment
- planning
- machine preparation
- manufacture complex components with features

Entry requirements

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Maths and English GCSE minimum Grade 4.

What training is required in the workplace?

Employer to ensure workplace training is in line with the Standard's Knowledge, skills and behaviours

Assessment methods

Observations, professional discussions, written job reports.

Qualification gained

EAL L3 Extended diploma in Machining (Development Knowledge).

Further study and career options

Course progression:

Level 4 Engineering Manufacturing Technician

Additional information

Equipment needed:

Apprentices will need to ensure they have PPE for the practical workshop delivery this includes overalls, steel toecap boots, safety goggles and gloves.

Campuses

Central Bedfordshire College, Leighton Buzzard campus.

For more information, please visit here:

[Machining technician / Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education](#)

How to apply

Through the apprenticeship vacancy page of our website:

<https://bedfordcollegegroup.ac.uk/study/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-vacancies/>

and the national apprenticeship website:

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/>