

FCO Services Technical Apprenticeship

GRAB A SCREWDRIVER AND TAKE ON THE WORLD

Technical Engineering Apprenticeships
Starting salary £13,200 + great benefits
Hanslope Park, Milton Keynes

YOUR FUTURE

BIGGER

A three-year technical apprenticeship with FCO Services will do more than just help you start your career – it could take you all around the world too.

You'll start by gaining some key skills and qualifications at college. As you progress, you'll spend more and more time with us, putting your learning into action on live security projects for government-level customers. The second and third years are all about on-the-job training, and it's here that the overseas opportunities will start to open up.

If you're interested in electronics and technology, have at least five GCSEs at C or above including English and Maths, and either a Physics based Science or Electronics subject, and are ready to get your hands on some big projects, this is the perfect opportunity.

To see how far your ambitions could take you, visit: fcoscareers.co.uk

Closing date for applications: 31 March 2016.



**TOP 100
EMPLOYER
— 2014 —**



FCO SERVICES

Part of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

About Us

FCO Services is a Trading Fund of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office with over sixty years of experience in delivering secure services across the globe keeping people safe, assets protected and information secure.

We are an organisation of immense capability. From counter eavesdropping and sophisticated secure cloud solutions, to secure logistics and even building entire embassies, our work protects information, national interests and people worldwide. Although our main customer is the Foreign and Commonwealth Office we also work for other UK Government departments and foreign governments closely linked to the UK. Our customers face ever-changing security challenges and we respond to those challenges with speed, agility and technological innovation.

The nature of our work means we work across the globe – often in very demanding environments. Our unique diversity allows us to provide outstanding solutions for our customers and outstanding careers for our people.

Programme Details

Qualifications and Personal Qualities required

Although the Apprenticeship programme is open to all ages, candidates must have the following:

- ✓ A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade A*-C (or equivalent) including English Language, Maths and Physics-based and/or Electronics.
- ✓ A genuine interest in technology and how it works and willingness to work and study hard.
- ✓ UK citizenship and to have resided in the UK for at least 2 out of the last 10 years

Year One

The programme commences in September with block release (studying full time) at Bedford College, returning to FCO Services during the college holidays.

Whilst at college apprentices study towards two nationally recognised qualifications, the Performing Engineering Operations (PEO) qualification and a BTEC Level 3 in Engineering.

The PEO is a level 2 National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) and has a strong practical bias designed to give apprentices a broad range of practical skills and experience.

The BTEC covers the theoretical aspects of electrical/electronic principles and is designed to give candidates a good understanding of the principles of electrical/electronic engineering.

Candidates also have to demonstrate Level 2 competences in the following functional skills:

- ✓ Information Technology
- ✓ Maths
- ✓ English

On the job training:

At the end of the academic year in June, apprentices return to FCO Services at Hanslope Park to undertake a range of technical courses on FCO Services-specific equipment at our in-house technical training facility.

Training courses are interspersed with work experience across a range of different departments. Each apprentice works under the close supervision of a more experienced member of staff in each area. During this period apprentices get the opportunity to put into practice the skills they have learnt in a real work environment.

Apprentices begin work on their NVQ Level 3 in Installation and Commissioning of Electrical & Electronic equipment, under the guidance of an independent advisor from Bedford College and FCO Services' Apprentice Manager.

Year Two

On the job training:

Year two commences with a continuation of the programme of work placements across FCO Services, initially at Hanslope Park.

Each placement gives apprentices the opportunity to develop an understanding of the different types of work FCOS is involved in. Later in the year candidates will get the opportunity to work on 'live' projects at Hanslope Park and other sites in the UK and/or overseas. Apprentices will also receive on-going technical training on FCOS specific products

Apprentices will be expected to use the work they are involved with as evidence towards completion of their NVQ Level 3 in Installation & Commissioning.

The NVQ qualification is managed, monitored and assessed by the College's Advisor and FCO Services' Apprentice Manager.

Year Three

On the job training:

Year three builds on year two with apprentices continuing to receive hands-on experience but with increased responsibility i.e. running small projects under supervision.

A final written and practical assessment will be undertaken at the end of the apprenticeship, which candidates must pass in order to progress.

On successful completion of the programme FCOS will make every effort to find you a permanent role within FCO Services.

Salary

Currently, the starting salary for the apprenticeship programme is £13,200 per annum plus the comprehensive reward package which includes generous holiday entitlement, ongoing development, and an excellent pension scheme.

Pay Reviews will be held at the end of each year of the scheme. Any pay review will be subject to course and exam requirements and conditions. After qualifying, should you be offered a permanent position with FCO Services, the current salary offered is £22,500 per annum.

For more information on our apprenticeships and current vacancies, visit www.fcocareers.co.uk