

## Apprenticeship Training Programme

### *Phase 1: With Employer*

Workplace Training and Assessments

### *Phase 2: The Irish School of Farriery (20 weeks)*

Induction and Safety

Forgework

Horsecare and Management

Anatomy and Physiology

Conformation and Movement

Horseshoeing

Arc Welding

### *Phase 3: With Employer*

Work Based Training and Assessments

### *Phase 4: The Irish School of Farriery (10 weeks)*

Forgework

Horseshoeing

Anatomy and Physiology

Conformation and Movement

Foot and Limb Conditions

Working as a Farrier

### *Phase 5: With Employer*

Work Based Training and Assessments

### *Phase 6: The Irish School of Farriery (10 weeks)*

Shoemaking

Horseshoeing

Anatomy and Physiology

Foot and Limb Conditions

Working as a Farrier

### *Phase 7: With Employer*

Work Based Training and Assessments

The overall duration of this apprenticeship is a minimum of 4 years provided all phases are successfully completed. On successful completion of the programme the learner is awarded a Level 6 Advanced Certificate Craft- Farriery.

Ver 2

For further information please contact your local Education & Training Board Training Centre or log onto [www.SOLAS.ie](http://www.SOLAS.ie)

# The Craft of Farriery



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 **Apprenticeship**  
KNOWLEDGE | SKILLS | COMPETENCE

## What is Farriery?

The craft of Farriery covers the making and fitting of horseshoes to prepared feet, with an understanding of different styles of shoeing and trimming required for various types of work, and both hot and cold shoeing techniques. Corrective foot trimming measures, remedial shoemaking and fitting, the use of alternative materials and the modification and fitting of manufactured shoes are also central to Farriery.

Farriery requires knowledge of the care and management of horses including most relevant local breeds of horses and an in-depth knowledge of horsemanship, equine anatomy, physiology, conformation and movement and foot balance are essential. This also requires recognition of lameness and injuries to the equine foot and leg as well as common ailments and diseases and ways of dealing with them in Farriery.

Welding operations to assist in the production and modification of tools and the forging of tools and shoes to particular requirements are vital skills.

The planning and management of all matters relating to the craft and liaison with owners and their representatives, veterinarians and fellow Farriers are also important aspects of the craft.

## Personal Qualities and Skills

As a Farrier you will need to be physically active and to be able to work with your hands. An awareness of health and safety and good housekeeping is essential as well as attention to detail and an eye for the aesthetic.

The Farrier must have the ability to:

- Plan and organise
- Communicate effectively
- Solve problems
- Work independently and as part of a team
- Show a positive attitude
- Recognise the need for good customer relations
- Gather information
- Demonstrate good work practices including time keeping, tidiness, responsibility, quality awareness and safety awareness

## Aspects of work

- Learning and developing new practical craft-related skills, knowledge and competence
- Working with and learning from experienced Craftspersons
- Seeing a job through from start to finish
- Comply with Health and Safety requirements
- Using tools and operating machinery
- Being responsible for controlling or adjusting equipment
- Demonstrate good analytical and troubleshooting skills
- Understanding technical drawings and diagrams
- Being accurate with numbers in counting, measuring and arithmetic
- Being well organised and careful with practical tasks
- Keeping up to date with changing technologies
- Being physically active
- Taking responsibility for own learning, including the allocation of study time
- Working in a noisy environment
- Passing all your phase exams (theory, practicals skills demonstration)
- Horsemanship
- Horse Handling and Management
- Equine Anatomy
- Forging Skills
- Corrective Shoeing and Trimming
- Therapeutic Shoeing
- Shoemaking
- Earning as you learn

## How to become an Apprentice

- You must obtain employment as an apprentice in your chosen occupation.
- The employer must be approved to train apprentices.
- The employer must register you as an apprentice within two weeks of recruitment.
- In certain crafts, apprenticeship applicants are required to pass a colour vision test approved by SOLAS.

## Entry Requirements

The minimum age at which the employment of an apprentice may commence is 16 years of age.

The minimum educational requirements are:

1. Grade D in five subjects in the Department of Education & Skills Junior Certificate Examination or an approved equivalent,

**or**

2. The successful completion of an approved Pre-Apprenticeship course

**or**

3. Three years' work experience gained over sixteen years of age in a relevant designated industrial activity as SOLAS shall deem acceptable

It should be noted that these are the current approved **minimum educational requirements** for apprenticeship programmes, however, previous experience of the following subjects would be an advantage but not essential: Metalwork, Physics, Engineering, Technology, Mathematics, Biology and Science.

## Opportunities on Qualification

On successful completion of the apprenticeship programme, apprentices are qualified to work within the recognised trade or profession.

Where apprentices and craftspersons have the necessary ability, initiative and basic qualifications, opportunities are available for advancement.

These include advanced technology courses and management courses which are available in Institutes of Technology, Schools of Management and Professional Institutes.

Many apprentices use their apprenticeship qualification as a platform to launch careers such as managers, owners of businesses and instructors amongst others.