

## Apprenticeship Training Programme

### **Phase 1: With Employer**

Induction Training  
Introduction to Health & Safety  
Introduction to Tools & Equipment  
Introduction to Basic Skills

### **Phase 2: Delivered in Training Centre (22 weeks)**

Course Content:  
Electrical Science  
Installation Techniques 1  
Installation Techniques 2  
Panel Wiring and Motor Control  
Fundamentals of Alternative Electrical Energy Sources  
Team leadership  
Communications

### **Phase 3: With Employer**

Work Based Training and Assessments

### **Phase 4: Delivered in Educational College (11 weeks)**

Course Content:  
Electricity 2  
Power Distribution 1  
Electronics 1  
Alternative Electrical Energy Sources  
Team Leadership  
Communications

### **Phase 5: With Employer**

Work Based Training and Assessments

### **Phase 6: Delivered in Educational College (11 weeks)**

Course Content:  
Automation and Control  
Intruder and Fire Alarm Systems  
Electricity 3  
Power Distribution 2  
Electronics 2  
Alternative Electrical Energy Sources  
Team Leadership  
Communications

### **Phase 7: With Employer**

Work Based Training and Assessments

You will be assessed throughout your apprenticeship by a range of assessment instruments. These include theory, practical, portfolio and coursework 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 - Electrical.

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# The Craft of Electrical



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



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**Apprenticeship**  
Real-life Learning

## What is an Electrician?

The Electrician is involved in the installation, commissioning, testing and maintenance of various wiring systems and services in domestic, commercial and industrial applications. Work ranges from wiring of domestic houses and retail units to more complex systems involving process control and maintenance in industrial plants, hospitals and power stations. Electricians also service, maintain and repair electrical equipment, both domestic and industrial.

Electricians employed by the Electricity Supply Board (ESB) engage in electrical power supply and distribution.

Electricians employed by electrical contractors are usually engaged in the installation of lighting, heating and power equipment and the repair of existing equipment and appliances.

Those in industrial employment are generally engaged in the maintenance and repair of factory plant, machinery and generating equipment.

Electricians require many skills including:

- Knowledge of scientific principles
- Performing general electrical installations
- Interpreting technical drawings and specifications
- Planning and organising the installation of electrical systems
- Inspecting and testing of electrical systems and fault diagnosis
- Performing routine maintenance and repairs on electrical systems
- Knowledge and application of Health and Safety Procedures

## Personal Qualities and Skills

As an Electrician 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.

## 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
- Understanding and using physics
- Working with electricity or electronics
- Being accurate with numbers in counting, measuring and arithmetic
- Completing detailed tasks that requires accuracy and careful handling
- Working with technical drawings and diagrams
- Working with a variety of specialised hand tools, power tools and equipment
- Being well organised and careful with practical tasks
- Lifting or carrying heavy items
- Taking responsibility for their own learning, including the allocation of study time
- Being physically active
- Bending and Kneeling
- Passing all your phase exams (theory, practicals skills demonstration)
- Earning as you learn

The Electrician 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
- Demonstrate good work practices including time keeping, tidiness, responsibility, quality awareness and safety awareness

## 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: Mathematics, Technology, Technical Drawing/ Graphics, Physics and Construction Studies.

## 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 engineers, managers, owners of businesses, teachers and instructors amongst others.