

Apprenticeship Training Programme

Phase 1: *With Employer*

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

Phase 2: *Delivered in Educational College (20 week)*

Induction
Personal Skills including Law
Digital Printing/I.T. Skills
Press Management
Lithographic Printing
Computerised Press Operation
Planning and Platemaking
Prepress Practical Skills
Originals and Reproduction Computer to Plate Technology
Print Finishing and Carton Processes
Guillotines/Folding Magazine Work Adhesive
Binding/Carton Making
Related Theory

Phase 3: *With Employer*

Work Based Assessments

Phase 4: *Delivered in Educational Colleges (15 weeks)*

Course Content:

Press Management
Lithographic Printing
Computerised Press Management System
Platemaking Flexographic & Gravure Printing Web - Offset Printing
Rotary Letterpress Printing
CNC (computer numerical control) Equipment
Cutting/Creasing
Graphic Design Binding – CAD (computer aided design)
Digital Imaging
Pre Press and Planning
Related Theory

Phase 5: *With Employer*

Work Based Assessments

The overall duration of this apprenticeship is a minimum of 3 years provided all phases are successfully completed. On successful completion of the programme the learner is awarded a Level 6 Advanced Certificate Craft – Print Media

For further information please contact your
local Education & Training Board Training Centre
or log onto www.SOLAS.ie

The Craft of Print Media



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 **Apprenticeship**
KNOWLEDGE. SKILL. COMPETENCE

Overview

Print Media craftspersons will have a broad understanding of setting and operation of equipment in the four main production sectors (Prepress, Printing, Print Finishing, Carton Making) they will also have a broad knowledge of materials, systems and procedures employed in these sectors. The craftsperson will have a competent knowledge of quality assurance procedures, and scientific principles underlying processes materials.

Work Activities

The work of the Print Media craftsperson range from the setting up, operating and service printing presses to print quality images on paper, board, foil and film. They also carryout machine settings, adjustments, diagnose and rectify faults on equipment, materials and processes, interpret computerised printing machine management system and platemaking. They also operate multi colour presses.

In addition the craftsperson has to plan and produce sample cartons, produce layouts, forme sets and operate forme making equipment. They set and operate cutting machines, creasing machines and set and gluing machines. They also have to operate quality control instruments and specialised tools

Personal Qualities and Skills

Planning and organisation ability, information gathering, problem solving, teamwork, use of initiative, good report and communications skills, understanding customers needs , have an awareness of environmental issues.

Aspects of Work

- Learning new practical skills
- Learning and developing new craft-related skills, knowledge and competence
- Being responsible for controlling or adjusting equipment
- Understanding technical specifications
- Be able diagnose and rectify faults
- Practical skills and theoretical knowledge
- Working with computer technology
- Keeping accurate records or reports
- Being well-organised and careful with practical tasks
- Working evenings or weekends
- Taking responsibility for own learning, including the allocation of study time

Opportunities

Opportunities arise from time-to-time for promotion to supervisor level. Many persons use an apprenticeship as a first step in proceeding to such occupations as instructors, teachers, training advisers, managers and owners of businesses.

Where apprentices and crafts persons have the necessary ability, initiative and basic qualifications, opportunities are available for advancement. These include advanced technological and management courses which are available in Institutes of Technology, Schools of Management, Professional Institutes, etc.

Persons anxious to advance themselves in their careers are advised to discover for themselves what opportunities are available.

Educational 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.

You must obtain a job as an apprentice in your chosen occupation. Your employer must be approved to train apprentices and must register you as an apprentice within 2 weeks of recruitment.

In certain crafts, apprenticeship applicants are required to pass a colour vision test approved by SOLAS.