

APPRENTICE JOURNEY

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Start your  
Apprenticeship  
journey  
with SRUC

# Apprentice Journey

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**A Modern Apprenticeship is all about learning while you work – and earning at the same time.**

- Anyone aged 16 or over can become a Modern Apprentice.
- From day one you'll have a real job, with a real employer, that earns you real pay.
- Gain skills and hands-on experience that employers value in an industry you are passionate about.
- Work towards an industry-recognised qualification.

## What do you need to get started?

For our entry level (SCQF L5), a satisfactory level of literacy & numeracy is required.

## What will you be doing?

During your time as a Modern Apprentice you will spend the majority of your time in the workplace, with dedicated time set aside to concentrate on your studies, fully supported both by your employer and us as your training provider. Access to training material, knowledgeable academic staff and the support of your fellow students and peers will help you succeed. Being part of the SRUC cohort at your local campus means you will have access to a full range of resources just like our full-time students, giving you the best of both worlds while you earn a wage and gain valuable work experience.

## What will you gain?

- Competency-based qualification, e.g. SVQ
- 'Enhancements' – industry-recognised training courses
- Core Skills, e.g. ICT.

## Careers & Pathways

The land-based sector has a vast array of careers to choose from, whether you're passionate about animal husbandry or dairy farming or, aspire to being a countryside ranger or agricultural engineer. We offer the skills, education and support needed to excel in a whole host of exciting careers you can be truly passionate about. There is the opportunity to progress to a higher level apprenticeship, NC, HNC/D or Degree.

"I think the modern apprenticeship is a great scheme, it allows young people to experience the work place, gain experience and start to realise their potential if they wish to."

**Jane Mackie owner of Rora Dairy,  
Peterhead**



**EMMA IRVINE**  
**SCQF Level 5 Agriculture at Rora Dairy  
through SRUC Aberdeen/Elmwood**

### **What is the best thing about your course?**

Learn and experience new skills on the farm and me now being confident to go off and use machinery while knowing how it all works and taking on a lot more responsibility.

### **What do you love most about your job?**

Getting to work with co-workers you get on well with and the responsibility. I like with my job that I get to work in the production line but also getting experience on the farm too.

### **How have you found studying and working?**

I would say I have found studying and working surprisingly easy. The way I worked it for me is when it was rainy days or when the season was getting quieter again to then focus more on my studying and when it's our busy time, to not forget the studying, but to focus more on the practical side of things.

### **How has being a modern apprentice helped you in the work place?**

The apprenticeship in agriculture has made me a lot more confident in general and also for taking responsibility for myself and work.

### **What would you say to a young person considering a modern apprenticeship?**

I would say for anyone looking to do a modern apprenticeship to go for it. It has given me a lot more skills and confidence in that industry and for me it is a lot of fun working rather than being in a class all day.

### **What do you hope to do after your apprenticeship is complete?**

After this apprenticeship I am hoping to go on to study full time in Rural Business Management.



EMPLOYER JOURNEY

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# Employer Journey

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**Training and skills development are vital to the success of any business, especially one that hopes to attract and keep skilled workers. Scotland's Rural College have the expertise and experience to keep you ahead of the field.**

We can guide you through the entire process, providing support, advice and training throughout. Apprentices earn while they learn, gaining a wide mix of skills and knowledge on the job, which will be supported by classroom-based and digital learning. The training is built around the job role to meet the needs of your business in a formalised training plan, with apprentices working towards a nationally recognised qualification.

## What do you need to get started?

- Apprentice aged 16 or over
- Apprentice in full-time employment
- Contract of Employment
- Pay at least Minimum Wage or The Agricultural Wages (Scotland) Order
- Time to devote to mentor the Apprentice
- Funding may be available to support the training.

## Why take on a Modern Apprentice?

### Improve productivity

Relevant, up-to-the-minute training is 'on-the-job', so they add to your productivity while gaining directly from the skills and experience of those around them.

### Motivate your workforce

Apprentices tend to be more enthusiastic and keen to know more as a result of their training. It also makes them feel more valued so it can be easier to retain them in the longer-term.

### Give you relevant skills

Apprenticeships can provide your business with skills that are not only specific to your industry, but also relevant to your business. They are designed around business needs by industry specialists who genuinely understand how your industry works.

### Help avoid skills gaps

Change and innovation are always with us. By taking on apprentices, your workforce could develop the specialist skills needed to keep up with the latest technology and working practices in your industry, helping you remain competitive.

“We have been delighted how Robbie has progressed through SRUC training and complemented with the onsite franchise training. This has allowed Robbie to have the skill and confidence to go on site and approach repairs in a mature manner with a great deal of success.”

**Bryan Rolfe, Workshop Manager,  
Hamilton Ross Group**



**ROBBIE GRAY**  
**SVQ Level 3 in Land-based Engineering  
at Ross of Lanark through SRUC Oatridge**

### **What is the best thing about your course?**

My whole life I have enjoyed being outdoors in the countryside, helping on farms and learning about machinery. Being able to pursue my passion has helped me to deliver work to a consistently high standard.

### **What do you love most about your job?**

I enjoy doing well and being interested in what I do. It's great being able to fix tractors and get a customer back up-and-running and seeing the customer happy.

### **How have you found studying and working?**

One challenge was adapting to digital working, opposed to entirely hands-on learning. I was able to combat this by being supported by other team members who had been in the same position as me at one point in their career. I was also supported by my employer, who supplied me with the necessary equipment I required to consolidate my digital learning.

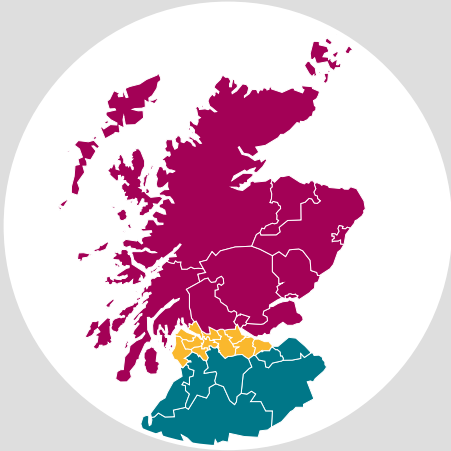
### **What do you hope to do after your modern apprenticeship?**

Over the coming years I hope to expand on my knowledge of machinery and channel this into the electronics side of machinery which is the way forward for the farming industry.

### **What would you say is most important for a modern apprentice in Land-based Engineering?**

- A good knowledge and a keen interest in agriculture is key to succeed.
- Dedication to learn in an ever-evolving industry.
- Good work life balance which promotes good health and wellbeing.

# NORTH



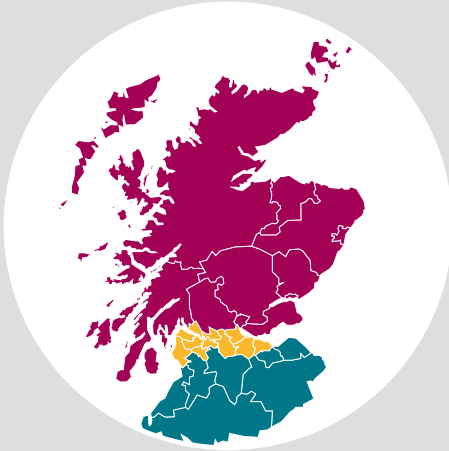
**Contact your local region today:**

[apprenticenorth@sruc.ac.uk](mailto:apprenticenorth@sruc.ac.uk)

NORTH	CAMPUS	COURSE DURATION	DELIVERY MODEL
Modern Apprenticeship Agriculture SCQF Level 5	Aberdeen	12–18 months	Work-Based Learning
Modern Apprenticeship Agriculture SCQF Level 6	Aberdeen	24 months	Work-Based Learning
Modern Apprenticeship Equine SCQF Level 5	Elmwood	12–18 months	Work-Based Learning
Modern Apprenticeship Equine SCQF Level 6	Elmwood	18 months	Work-Based Learning
Modern Apprenticeship Food and Drink Operations – Production and Processing Skills (SCQF Level 5)	Elmwood	12 months	Work-Based Learning
Modern Apprenticeship Game and Wildlife Management SCQF Level 5	Elmwood	12 months	Work-Based Learning
Modern Apprenticeship Horticulture SCQF Level 5	Elmwood	24 months	Block Release
Modern Apprenticeship Parks, Gardens and Green Spaces SCQF Level 6	Elmwood	24 months	Block Release
Modern Apprenticeship Sports Turf Greenkeeping SCQF Level 5	Elmwood	24 months Block Release & 12–18 months Work-Based Learning	Block Release & Work-Based Learning
Modern Apprenticeship Sports Turf Greenkeeping SCQF Level 6	Elmwood	24 months Block Release & 12–18 months Work-Based Learning	Block Release & Work-Based Learning



# CENTRAL



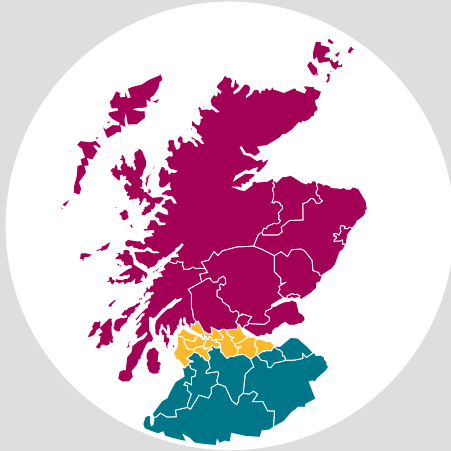
**Contact your local region today:**

[apprenticecentral@sruc.ac.uk](mailto:apprenticecentral@sruc.ac.uk)

CENTRAL	CAMPUS	COURSE DURATION	DELIVERY MODEL
Modern Apprenticeship Agriculture SCQF Level 5	Oatridge	12-18 months	Work-Based Learning
Modern Apprenticeship Agriculture SCQF Level 6	Oatridge	24 months	Work-Based Learning
Modern Apprenticeship Equine SCQF Level 5	Oatridge	12-18 months	Work-Based Learning
Modern Apprenticeship Land-Based Engineering (Agricultural Machinery) SCQF Level 5 and Level 6	Oatridge	18 months	Block Release
Modern Apprenticeship Land-Based Engineering (Ground-care Machinery) SCQF Level 5 and Level 6	Oatridge	18 months	Block Release
Modern Apprenticeship Horticulture SCQF Level 5	Oatridge	18 months	Day Release
Modern Apprenticeship Parks, Gardens and Green Spaces SCQF Level 5 and Level 6	Oatridge	18 months	Day Release
Modern Apprenticeship Landscaping SCQF Level 5 and Level 6	Oatridge	18 months	Day Release
Modern Apprenticeship Rural Skills (Conservation & Environment) SCQF Level 5	Oatridge	12-18 months	Work-Based Learning
Modern Apprenticeship Veterinary Nursing SCQF Level 7	Oatridge	30 months	Block Release



# SOUTH & WEST



**Contact your local region today:**

[apprenticesouthwest@sruc.ac.uk](mailto:apprenticesouthwest@sruc.ac.uk)

SOUTH & WEST	CAMPUS	COURSE DURATION	DELIVERY MODEL
Modern Apprenticeship Agriculture SCQF Level 5	Ayr & Barony	12-18 months	Block Release
Modern Apprenticeship Agriculture SCQF Level 6	Ayr & Barony	24 months	Block Release
Modern Apprenticeship Land-Based Engineering (Agricultural Machinery & Forestry) SCQF Level 5	Barony	12 Months	Block Release
Modern Apprenticeship Land-Based Engineering (Agricultural Machinery & Forestry) SCQF Level 6	Barony	12 Months	Block Release
Modern Apprenticeship Trees and Timber SCQF Level 5	Barony	12 Months	Block Release
Modern Apprenticeship General Woodlands and Tree Work SCQF Level 6	Barony	12 Months	Block Release
Modern Apprenticeship Arboriculture SCQF Level 6	Barony	12 Months	Block Release
Modern Apprenticeship Horticulture SCQF Level 5	Barony	12 Months	Block Release
Modern Apprenticeship Parks, Gardens and Green Spaces SCQF Level 6	Barony	12 Months	Block Release