

OECD YOUTH WEEK 2021

Prepared for the future?



Developing skills at work: Apprenticeship as an attractive pathway for youth

24 September 2021, 2:00-3:30 pm (CET)
Virtual event

Background

Young people have been hard hit by the wide reaching educational, labour market and social impacts of the COVID-19 crisis. As part of our efforts to promote whole-of-government responses to support young people as we look to recover from the crisis, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is organising a Youth Week. This will be an opportunity to build upon the updated OECD Youth Action Plan, which sets out the foundations for strengthening youth policies and outcomes for 15-29 year-olds in key policy areas including employment and education, social policies, and public governance.

One important tool to support skills development and labour market entry for youth is apprenticeship. It combines learning in a school-based setting with learning in the workplace. These types of programmes allow apprentices to directly apply what they have learnt in school in a real work environment, while also learning on the job alongside experienced workers. Almost all countries have some form of apprenticeship programme available, but the way in which they are designed and delivered differ hugely between countries. Well-designed apprenticeship programmes support students in developing the skills needed in the labour market and facilitate school-to-work transitions by equipping students with a first work experience. In spite of the many known benefits of apprenticeships, many countries struggle to make the most of their apprenticeship system. One important challenge in many countries is the low attractiveness of the apprenticeship pathway, especially compared to academic routes.

Objectives

This session will discuss how governments and employers are innovating apprenticeships to make them more attractive to youth, while ensuring that they provide high-quality training that facilitates transitions into the labour market and into further learning. The panel discussion will bring together the views from policy-makers, employers, youth and the not-for-profit sector.

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Agenda

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS El Iza Mohamedou, head of the [OECD Centre for Skills](#)

MODERATOR Gavin O'Meara, CEO of [FE News](#)

PANEL Brent Parton, Senior Advisor in the [Employment and Training Administration](#), United States

Karen Murray, Head of Work-Based Learning Quality Delivery, [Skills Development Scotland](#), United Kingdom

Kristoffer Nilsson, Director of Education - Unit for School and working life, [National Agency for Education](#), Sweden

Markus Kutvonen, Chairperson for STTK students, [OECD Youthwise](#) and TUAC youth advisory board

Nazrene Mannie, Executive Director, [Global Apprenticeship Network](#)

Sherrie Donaldson, Sector and Partner lead, [Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator](#), South Africa

Registration

[Register here to join this event](#)

Contact

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