



THE CHARTERED INSTITUTION  
FOR FURTHER EDUCATION



Association of  
**Apprentices**

# PARS

POST-APPRENTICESHIP  
RECOGNITION SCHEME

UPDATE - MARCH 2025

Presented by

**The Chartered Institution for Further Education and  
the Association of Apprentices**



**The Association of Apprentices and the Chartered Institution for Further Education have created a brand-new professional recognition scheme for qualified apprentices.**

PARS recognises the unique educational route that is an apprenticeship and rewards those who complete their programme for the skills they have gained and their commitment to continuous development and professional standards.

**Apprentices  
will receive  
a certificate  
and the  
right to use  
a post-  
nominal  
designation**



### **Eligibility**

PARS is open to all apprentices (regardless of level or occupational pathway) who:



completed their  
apprenticeship in the UK



have their official  
completion certificate



have the support of their  
employer (or an industry-  
linked sponsor)



There are four awards available, depending on the level of apprenticeship achieved:

Apprenticeship Level	Award Name	Post-Nominal Designation	Cost
Level 2 (Eng/NI/Wales) Level 5 (Scot)	Certificate of Standard Apprenticeship	CSA	£40
Level 3 (Eng/NI/Wales) Level 6 (Scot)	Certificate of Advanced Apprenticeship	CAA	£58
Levels 4 & 5 (Eng/NI/Wales) Level 7 & 8 (Scot)	Certificate of Higher Apprenticeship	CHA	£64
Level 6-7 (Eng/NI/Wales) Level 9-12 (Scot)	Certificate of Graduate Apprenticeship	CGA	£75



PARS recognises the unique educational route that is an apprenticeship and rewards those who complete



It is a one-off recognition of an apprentice's achievement at a specific point in time and is complementary to industry-specific or occupational professional recognition



It is NOT an accreditation with membership of a professional body, a qualification in its own right or an assessment of competence



Recipients will receive a certificate and the right to use a post-nominal designation



## Application Process

The application process is straightforward. Applicants will need to complete some basic personal information and (for some levels) provide further information based on their personal reflections of their apprenticeship journey.

All levels	Personal details (name, DOB, contact details, employer, training provider and apprenticeship details)
All levels	General questions describing skills and additional experiences
From Level 3 (Eng/NI/Wales) Level 6 (Scot)	Tell us briefly about the benefits of achieving your apprenticeship (up to 250 words)
From Levels 4 & 5 (Eng/NI/Wales) Level 7 & 8 (Scot)	Two free text boxes (up to 250 words each): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Briefly describe how you are continuing your professional development, any training, learning &amp; development you have undertaken, and any future plans.</li><li>• How do you think your apprenticeship will help you to progress and contribute to your organisation, industry and/or wider community?</li></ul>



**To apply, apprentices will need proof of completion. This is the certificate issued by the relevant authority. They will also need the name and contact details of a current employer or an industry sponsor.**



**Retain Talent:** PARS provides a way to recognise and celebrate the achievements of your apprentices who have completed their training. This recognition can motivate apprentices to stay with you, reducing turnover. Supporting your apprentices to gain the award demonstrates your commitment to them and the value you place on completions, boosting engagement and morale. Furthermore, PARS achievers can access on-going development and a community of post-apprentices, strengthening their performance beyond their apprenticeship.



**Attract Talent:** PARS helps to attract new talent by showcasing your commitment to professional growth and investment in apprentices' careers. It helps to distinguish your organisation, making you stand out to prospective applicants and strengthening your employer brand. Furthermore, the PARS award is an effective indicator that an apprentice has gone above and beyond with regards to progression and CPD, which aids your recruitment and selection process.



**Gain Recognition:** Supporting apprenticeships and encouraging your apprentices to participate in PARS helps you to gain recognition for investing in skills development. This positively impacts your reputation with customers, internally within your organisation, within your industry and the wider community. PARS demonstrates a commitment to professional standards and showcases your apprentices' wider skills, enhancing your brand's credibility and giving you a competitive edge.



**Achieve CSR Goals:** The award of PARS post-nominals will elevate the status of both the apprentice and the apprenticeship route, contributing to raising parity of esteem and building awareness of the impact that qualified apprentices offer. This supports you to achieve CSR goals around social mobility, EDI and contributions to your organisation's wider community.

For more information visit [www.associationofapprentices.org.uk/pars](http://www.associationofapprentices.org.uk/pars)  
or email [pars@associationofapprentices.org.uk](mailto:pars@associationofapprentices.org.uk)