earn while you learn to...
install electronic security systems!
Skilled engineers who can install and maintain security cameras, alarms and card-access systems are in demand. The Government is supporting this skills shortage by encouraging young people to join the industry as apprentices, in order to develop their learning and skills.

As an Apprentice you would learn how to install and test security systems, repair faults and explain to customers how to use them.

**IS AN APPRENTICESHIP RIGHT FOR YOU?**

If you are looking for a job that enables you to continue learning and learn a skill, or you are already in employment and would like to gain further qualifications, then an apprenticeship might be the right choice for you.

**WHAT’S INVOLVED?**

As an apprentice security engineer you will attend college for one day each week to learn electrical theory. The rest of the time you will be being trained in the workplace by experienced technicians who can teach you the practical skills you will need. The apprenticeship will be completed in two years, or three if you progress into an advanced apprenticeship.

**WHO CAN BECOME AN APPRENTICE?**

Apprenticeships are open to everyone above the age of 16. Whether you are leaving school, looking for a new career or have been in employment for a while, you can become an apprentice. Entry requirements are flexible as employers won’t just be looking for academic qualifications but will be interested in your willingness to learn while you are working.

An apprenticeship will provide you with flexible career prospects that can lead to supervisory and management positions.

**HOW WILL I BENEFIT?**

There are lots of benefits to the apprenticeship programme, not least the chance to earn while you learn – apprentices are full time, wage earning employees.

You will be gaining valuable experience by learning practical skills from someone who is an expert in the trade. At the same time you will be taught technical theory, communication skills, numeracy and IT skills that you will need in your job, and will gain national qualifications that give you a sense of personal achievement.

Apprentices learn in real-life situations, so you won’t be stuck in a workshop but will be working as part of a small team in a wide range of environments that can range from private houses to sports stadiums and from corner shops to airports – your training will teach you how to apply your skills in all situations.

**WHAT TO DO NEXT?**

If you are currently working within the security systems sector then you can approach your Manager to see if they will allow you to undertake the scheme. They can obtain further information about employing apprentices from Skills for Security.

If there is a particular company that you would like to work for, you can approach the recruitment manager of that organisation directly – again, refer them to Skills for Security, if they need information about how to set up an apprenticeship scheme.

If you are looking for a security company that employs apprentice engineers, contact your local Connexions office (for people aged up to 19) or Jobcentre Plus.

For general information about apprenticeships visit www.apprenticeships.org.uk or call the hotline on 08000 150 600.

For specific information about apprenticeships in the security industry call Skills for Security on 08450 750 111 or email info@skillsforsecurity.org.uk

“I find it helps to have a practical side at the same time as studying at college because they both help each other out.”

Jemma Preston, Apprentice, Westmorland Fire & Security

“I am thrilled at the opportunity of going to college to obtain a nationally recognised qualification and to help gain experience on how to fulfill my job criteria.”

Joe Swan-Liddell, Apprentice, Security Alarm Services