



## **SCOTTISH BUILDING APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING COUNCIL**

### **Construction Apprenticeship**

### **A Great Way to a Great Career**

#### **A Life Changing Opportunity**

Opting for a Modern Apprenticeship within the Construction Industry gives an opportunity to earn at the same time as learning. There are many crafts to choose from with excellent career progression routes.

#### **Who is the SBATC ?**

The Scottish Building Apprenticeship & Training Council (SBATC) was founded in 1934. The main purpose of the organisation is to regulate the working conditions, wages, recruitment and training of apprenticeships within the Building Industry throughout Scotland. The Council is composed of equal numbers of employers and operative's representatives.

During 2007 SBATC indentured over 2,800 apprentices and when you include other trades, the Scottish Construction Industry recruited well over 4,000 apprentices. SBATC works in partnership with ConstructionSkills and other Managing Agents along with the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). Grants and funding may be available from Managing Agents to assist with the financial cost involved in employing and training an apprentice.

Based at Crichton House, Holyrood, the Headquarters of Scottish Building Federation, is where all apprenticeships are registered and the Federation takes a very active role in supporting the SBATC and ensuring that the Apprentices of today grow into the businesses of tomorrow that they aim to help.

#### **What's Involved?**

Both employer and apprentice commit to a four-year apprenticeship agreement: -

- The employer, wishing to attract conscientious and motivated youngsters offers structured on-site training enabling them to gain the relevant hands-on experience coupled with academic education within a college environment allowing the apprentice to train towards the Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQ's) in his or her chosen occupation, which are jointly awarded by SBATC and the Scottish Vocational Qualifications Authority (SQA).
- The apprentice in turn receives a regular wage whilst gaining priceless on-site experience being supervised by, and working alongside, skilled tradesmen, gaining confidence and experience resulting in a valuable qualification, which hopefully leads to a rewarding career within the industry.

### **Two Year Apprenticeship**

SBATC also offer a Two Year Apprenticeship Scheme. This scheme has been in operation for many years now and the duration of the course is two years with the appropriate SVQ Level 3 being attained during this period. The Integrated Assessment, or Skills-Test as it is more commonly known, is also a requisite part of this course.

The scheme is aimed at people who have industry experience but for whatever reason missed out on the opportunity to do a traditional four-year Apprenticeship, but may also be an option for adults who wish to retrain and follow a career path in construction. The Adult Scheme provides an excellent tool for employers to develop existing workers or aid recruitment and training of new workers.

Funding for adult apprentices is available on the same basis as for new entrants (traditional four-year scheme for 16 and 17 year olds). Further information regarding funding is available from the ConstructionSkills. Scottish Building Federation and SBATC are committed to qualifying the workforce and support all initiatives to achieve this. The Two Year Apprenticeship scheme is a good example of how this commitment can be translated into action.

### **Maintaining Quality Training**

SBATC, working in partnership with Managing Agents, SQA and the employing organisations, all have the same goals and objectives – to ensure we nurture and develop the youngsters of today, thereby further enhancing and maintaining the high quality of workmanship within the construction sites and developments throughout Scotland.

SBATC is chaired by David Smith, who as a time served joiner has some 50 years of industry experience in training and developing people.

The Operatives' Secretary of the SBATC is Harry Frew – Scottish Regional Secretary of UCATT.

The Employers Secretary is Michael Levack - Chief Executive of Scottish Building Federation, the principal employers' federation for the construction industry in Scotland.

### **Need More Information – Who To Contact**

We are here to assist both employers and apprentices with a helpful and informative service and offer advice on any part of the registration process.

*Please find below useful telephone numbers and points of contact:-*

- **SBATC**  
**Scottish Building Federation Headquarters**      Tel: 0131 556 8866  
Website: [www.sbatc.co.uk](http://www.sbatc.co.uk)
  
- **ConstructionSkills**      Tel: 0141 810 3044  
Website: [www.cskills.org](http://www.cskills.org)
  
- **SQA**      Tel: 0141 242 2214  
Website: [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)