ATAC Advanced Therapies Apprenticeship Community

Driving the future workforce for advanced therapies and complex medicines

Start now with an apprenticeship in life sciences

The double award-winning Advanced Therapies Apprenticeship Community (ATAC) is the first apprenticeship programme designed specifically to train and upskill individuals in developing, manufacturing and delivering innovative therapies at scale.

advancedtherapiesapprenticeships.co.uk

PRINCESS ROYAL TRAINING AWARD 2025

Coordinated by CATAPULT Cell and Gene Therapy

What are advanced therapies?

Advanced therapies, often referred to as Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs), are cutting-edge medical treatments based on genes, cells, or tissues. These innovative therapies promise transformative options for diseases that currently have limited or no effective treatments.

Why choose an ATAC apprenticeship?

- Help transform lives by supporting an industry finding better treatment options for life-altering diseases
- Access ongoing support through ATAC for both you and your employer
- Join a growing community making real-life contributions to life sciences
- Get introduced to the wider industry to support your professional development

Offered at Level 3 through to Level 7, apprenticeship subjects include:

- Laboratory Science
- Production and Manufacturing
- Leadership and Management
- Data, Digital and Automation
- Quality and Improvement

Scan the QR code to find out more about becoming an ATAC apprentice

What are complex medicines?

Complex medicines are a broad category of innovative treatments that include vaccines, RNA and oligonucleotides.

ATAC has recently expanded to offer apprenticeships in complex medicines at Level 6.

ATAC Complex Medicines

Scan the QR code to find out more about apprenticeships in complex medicines

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why choose an ATAC apprenticeship?

By joining, you'll help transform lives by supporting an industry dedicated to finding better treatment options for life-altering and incurable diseases. You and your employer will also receive ongoing support from ATAC, while becoming part of a growing community making real contributions to the life sciences. Plus, you'll be introduced to the wider industry, opening up opportunities to strengthen your professional development.

What are the entry requirements to join an ATAC apprenticeship?

Entry requirements vary depending on the specific programmes but will usually include an existing GCSE or A Level in a Bioscience related subject. In Scotland: two Highers including maths and a science subject (ideally biology or chemistry) and four Standard Grades at Level 3 or National 5 awards or above including English.

Who can do an apprenticeship?

As long as you are eligible to work in the UK, are aged 16 or over, and have been resident in the UK or EEA for three years beforehand, you can do an apprenticeship! Apprenticeships are not just for people in their early careers, you can use an apprenticeship to improve your ability to do your current role, to take a 'sideways step' into a new specialism, or even as part of a promotion!

How long does an apprenticeship take to complete?

This can vary from 15 months up to five years. If you already have experience in the area you are studying, you may be eligible for prior learning credits meaning you can skip certain parts of the programme making your apprenticeship shorter in duration.

How much will I earn whilst on an ATAC apprenticeship?

You can expect a starting salary of between £16,000 and £21,000 depending on your employer, the apprenticeship you are undertaking and the area in which you work.

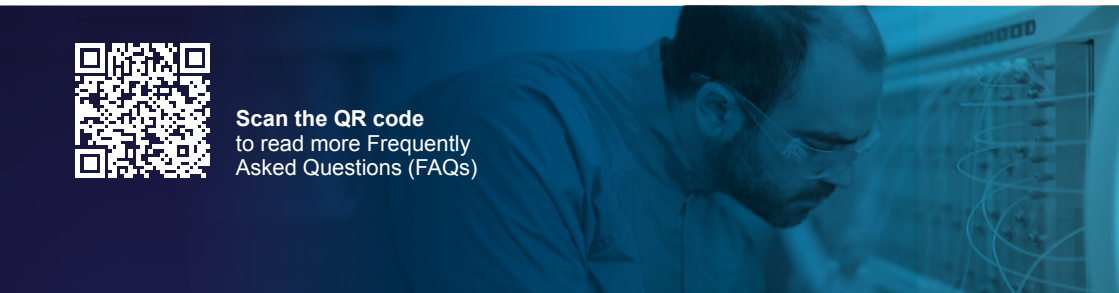
How much will an ATAC apprenticeship cost me?

Nothing! Your learning is funded by your employer and the government.

What are my career opportunities after an ATAC apprenticeship?

After a successful completion you may be offered a permanent position at your employer, or we can support you in seeking a position with one of the other 60+ employers that are part of our community.

Scan the QR code to read more Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



Hear from some of the apprentices

Meet Lara – Level 7 – Research Scientist, Autolus

“There are regular visits to companies involved with ATAC, where apprentices can look around facilities and learn about what they do. This helped to further my understanding of the advanced therapies sector as many companies treat diseases other than cancer. The trips keep university modules in mind, meaning the activities were beneficial and can be applied to our studies. ATAC also helps apprentices prepare for their end point assessments and will assist in preparation where they can.”

Meet Anna – Level 6 – Laboratory Scientist, Autolus

“I have always been passionate about science and knew I wanted a career where I could make a difference. Discovering advanced therapies apprenticeships showed me the perfect path to combine hands-on learning with helping patients. ATAC has supported me every step of the way, from training and guidance to building valuable networks with fellow apprentices. A highlight has been leading my first project, which really developed my skills and confidence. Now working towards my Level 6 degree, I’m excited to continue growing and contributing to the future of advanced therapies.”

Meet Immanuel – Level 6 – Science Industry Process and Plant Engineer, Oxford Biomedica

“I chose an advanced therapies apprenticeship because it offered practical experience, new challenges, and the opportunity to earn a degree without student debt. ATAC has been a great support, from virtual reality GMP training to industry insights and site visits. One of the most interesting projects I’ve worked on has been facility smoke studies, which gave me real exposure to the detail required in validation. Apprenticeships not only build technical knowledge but also develop valuable soft skills, setting you apart early in your career. I’m excited to continue developing my expertise in validation while completing my Chemical Engineering degree.”

Scan the QR code
to learn more about our ATAC apprentices

For further advice, email our team:
apprenticeshipsinfo@ct.catapult.org.uk

or visit:
advancedtherapiesapprenticeships.co.uk