



## What are T Levels?

T Levels are new courses (launched in 2020) that help prepare you for a career in a range of industries. One T level is equal to 3 A levels (Level 3) and takes 2 years to complete. They have been designed with help from employers and involve learning about an industry or work sector, developing the skills needed to work there plus at least 45 days in a real workplace. The industries include construction, digital, childcare and education, health and science.

## What grades will I need?

The college (or the organisation running the course) set the requirements, most ask for 5 GCSE grades 9-4, or equivalent, including English and Maths. Look out for higher Maths and Science requirements for some courses.

There is also a one-year transition programme being developed for young people who might not have the grades or who aren't quite ready to go straight into T Levels.

## Where can I study T Levels?

At present they're offered locally at Barnsley College, Sheffield College, Chesterfield College, Longley Park Sixth form college.



## What T Levels can I take?

There are currently T levels locally in the following broad areas:

- Business
- Construction
- Digital
- Finance and Accountancy
- Education and Childcare
- Health and Science
- Engineering and Manufacturing



More subjects including Animal Care, Creative Design, Hair and Beauty will follow. Eventually there will be around 24 separate T levels.

They will replace other qualifications like BTEC in many subject areas.

## Why study a T level?

Experience of the workplace is vital. A recent survey showed two thirds of employers look for applicants with relevant work experience because it helps them prepare for work and develop general business awareness. Importantly, one third of employers felt that applicants did not have a satisfactory level of knowledge about their chosen career or job. (<https://illuminate.prospects.ac.uk/what-do-graduates-do>)



## How do I choose between T Levels, A Levels and an apprenticeship?

T Levels, A Levels and advanced apprenticeships are all at the same level but there are differences:

**A Levels** are largely about ideas and knowledge and they normally involve classroom study rather than a lot of practical or workplace experience.

**Apprenticeships** are paid jobs with part time training. You spend around 80% of your time in the workplace and around 20% in off-the-job training. You should be interested in the job concerned, and the employer will expect you to fit into their company (sometimes known as being 'work ready').

**T Levels** are a middle way. You spend around 80% of your time in class, learning about an industry and around 20% on a work placement. You need to be interested in that industry but you might not know exactly what job you want to do. You have time to learn what's involved and to develop the kinds of skills that employers need.

## What can I do after T Levels?

Your main options would be:

- Employment
- Higher education
- A higher or degree apprenticeship

## Can I apply to university?

Yes, T Levels will attract UCAS Tariff points\* (a system used by some universities to score qualifications). For example, a T Level Distinction will be worth the same points as AAA at A Level and a Distinction\* will be worth the same points as AAA\*. You will probably need to be applying to a degree directly related to your T level specialism.

**Did you know?** Manchester University is now accepting T level in Health and Science for medicine.

You may need specific grades or Tariff points for some courses. Some courses still ask for an A level alongside your T level.

\*Be aware that currently not all universities are accepting T Levels. Check individual university entry requirements.



Find out more



[www.tlevels.gov.uk](http://www.tlevels.gov.uk)  
[www.barnsley.ac.uk](http://www.barnsley.ac.uk)  
[www.longleypark.ac.uk](http://www.longleypark.ac.uk)  
[www.sheffcol.ac.uk](http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk)  
[www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/entry-requirements/ucas-tariff-points](http://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/entry-requirements/ucas-tariff-points)