



## The power to change

An industry charity with industry power



# Apprentice Support Programme



The future of our industry –  
your apprentices.

# About the Electrical Industries Charity

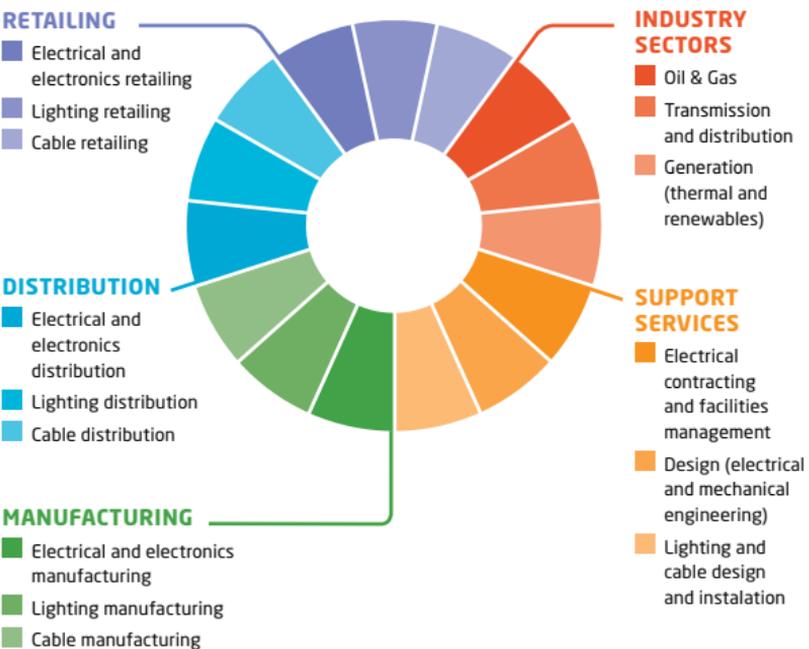
**An industry charity for industry people.**

The Electrical Industries Charity is a national charity with an ongoing mission to look after our community.

We do this by providing a direct line of financial relief and practical support services to individuals in need.

Our community model of care means we are looking out for apprentices, employees, retired colleagues AND their immediate families. We can help regardless of age, circumstances or health.

## What are electrical industries?



The Electrical Industries Charity (EIC) offers four programmes that lead to more productive, more supportive workplaces.

**These programmes are:**



## Apprentice Support Programme (ASP)

The Apprentice Support Programme (ASP) recognises our stewardship role in building resilience for the young lifeblood of our industry.

The ASP delivers a very similar range of services to those provided by our flagship Employee and Family Assistance Programme. And although not mentioned in the Programme title, the family aspect remains a critical part of the service offering!

**By harnessing the resources of the EIC, the Scottish Electrical Charitable Training Trust (SECTT) and JTL we can fully support apprentices in navigating critical training, employment and life skills.**

The Apprentice Support Programme is designed to meet the challenges of starting out in a new career.

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## The Programme recognises the importance of peer and family support networks.

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Apprenticeships offer a unique opportunity to earn and learn. We are here to help integrate all the factors that contribute to maximising this opportunity, both for the Employer and the Apprentice.

With the right level of support many issues, including financial, emotional, health and family factors can be managed sensitively and proactively. Strong peer to peer networks are also seen as critical in the provision of positive role-models within our industry.

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## The Apprenticeship Value Proposition

- > Businesses report an average **increase in productivity by £214 a week** when they hire apprentices.
- > Almost **9 in 10** of every employer that takes on an apprentice **report benefits** to their business.
- > **70% reported** that apprenticeships **improved** their **productivity or the quality** of their product or service.

# Introducing the **Confidential Helpline**



**0800 652 1618**

**Available 7 days a week** offering free and independent assistance for virtually any problem or issue apprentices may encounter. Our trained Advisors treat all callers with respect and empathy.

**Our Confidential Helpline** is the gateway to access the following Apprentice Support Programme services:

**Telephone counselling**

**Debt advice**

**Legal advice**

**Support for young carers**

**Financial assistance and grants**

**Electrical engineering scholarship**

**Apprenticeship scholarship**

**Apprenticeship bursary scheme**

**Career development assistance**

**Complex case management support**

# Key features of the ASP

As well as the support offered by our Apprentice Training partners, the Electrical Industries Charity can help with some specific issues that affect apprentices.



## Worried about debt?

Getting into debt can happen to anyone. If not dealt with sensibly, debt can spiral out of control, leaving people feeling extremely anxious or depressed. The Electrical Industries Charity can help apprentices with free debt advice. We work with the Debt Advice Network, and other charities, to provide individual solutions to managing debt.

## Going through a rough patch?

Everyone has to confront difficult emotions at some time. Counselling is for anyone who is going through a tough time. Sometimes it is easier to talk to a stranger than to relatives or friends. Some people say that counselling doesn't make their problems go away, but they find it easier to cope.

## Supporting others?

Sometimes, apprentices are supporting others at home - maybe a partner or a family member has a chronic illness, an addiction or a disability. Caring for a friend or relative can be a rewarding and fulfilling experience. It's also a big undertaking that can leave young people feeling tired and stressed.

## Legal advice

Helpline Advisors can refer apprentices to our partner Law Express for general advice on most legal matters:

- Family law, Carer provisions, estate planning, wills and probate
- Taxation, state pension and pension credits
- Consumer law, motoring and road traffic accidents, criminal and civil actions
- Personal injury, clinical negligence, loss of earnings
- Workplace issues.

## Financial assistance

When unforeseen circumstances arise or life deals a blow, a little extra help can make all the difference. For those who can demonstrate a serious financial need, the Electrical Industries Charity may be able to provide a grant for a wide range of needs from the everyday to the exceptional - including, job readiness, disability adaptations, and also basic essentials like heating and food.

## Career development

If required, apprentices are given access to our 'work friend' portal for a range of audio, video and written material and tools; supplemented by access to an individual telephone career coach for three months. Call our Confidential Helpline for further information.

## Complex case management support

At the age of 20, and in the final year of his apprenticeship with Bloom and Wake, Billy was diagnosed with bone cancer which was so aggressive as to require a lifesaving amputation. Billy's family, local community and businesses, Rotary and the EIC were able to collectively fund a prosthetic limb. Billy's journey back to independence is imbued with a strong desire to complete his Apprenticeship.

## Apprenticeship Bursary Scheme

Apprentices who are looking after a family or providing fulltime Carer's support can apply for a bursary. Please contact the EIC Ambassador at [tessa.ogle@electricalcharity.org](mailto:tessa.ogle@electricalcharity.org) with any queries or call the EIC on **0800 652 1618**.

### Criteria for applicants:

- › Apprentice to have started employment after 1 July 2015, have been employed as an apprentice for at least 3 months and experiencing financial distress/hardship.
- › Hold a GCSE grade C or above in English and Math (or equivalent, for example GCE O level or CSE grade 1) before commencing employment.
- › Submit a 2 page letter stating why they should be selected for the bursary, the value they can contribute to the industry over the term of their apprenticeship, and that they are willing to act as Ambassadors for the Apprentice Support Programme.

## Scholarships

The EIC has scholarships for apprentices, and because 19% of advanced apprentices progress to higher education we also offer electrical engineering scholarships.



# Strong partnerships

By harnessing the resources of the EIC, the Scottish Electrical Charitable Training Trust (SECTT) and JTL we can fully support apprentices in navigating critical training, employment and life skills.

**JTL** is the leading work-based training provider of electrical apprenticeships across England and Wales.

**Scottish Electrical Charitable Training Trust (SECTT)** is a registered charity, Scottish Charity No. SC001806, delegated by the Scottish Joint Industry Board (SJIB) to manage electrical apprentice training schemes in Scotland.



A proud industry supporter  
of the Apprentice Support  
Programme

All services provided by the Electrical Industries Charity and its partner organisations remain **free** and **confidential**.

# Starting out with the Apprentice Support Programme is easy

Working with your communications team, or equivalent, we will prepare customised:

- > Leaflets and wallet cards
- > Workplace posters
- > Staff presentations
- > Regular news items for staff newsletters
- > Information for employee handbooks
- > Fundraising packs
- > Case studies.

## Join us for healthy and enjoyable events

Getting involved in raising funds for your industry charity is a great way to motivate, encourage creativity, improve communications and promote team-work. We have places in a number of running, cycling and challenge events throughout the UK.

**A calendar of events can be found at  
[www.electricalcharity.org](http://www.electricalcharity.org)**



# HOW YOU CAN HELP

There are many ways to show your support:

- > Sign up to our free workplace programmes
- > Request an EIC fundraising pack and do something amazing to raise funds
- > Coordinate a team challenge
- > Organise fundraising activities
- > Join an EIC Regional Committee
- > Attend regional events
- > Play powerLottery – the odds of winning are better than the National Lottery
- > Make a mobile phone donation right now – text POWR01 \$10 to 70070
- > Your organisation can take a table at powerBall – the biggest and best industry party of the year

For more information email

**business@electricalcharity.org**

or visit **www.electricalcharity.org**

The Electrical Industries Charity  
is the national charity for the  
electrical and energy industries.

**Supporting your people  
through life's challenges.**

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**For more information or to start your free  
partnership with us today:**



**Phone:** 020 3696 1710



**Email:** [business@electricalcharity.org](mailto:business@electricalcharity.org)

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The Electrical Industries Charity is a registered charity in  
England and Wales (1012131) and in Scotland (SCO 38811)

**Patron:** HM The Queen

**Company No:** 2726030 (Company limited by Guarantee)  
Registered in England and Wales

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