

July 2025
Issue #7



SCIENCE
APPRENTICESHIP FORUM

SAF Newsletter

The latest news, views and announcements

Letter from the Forum

Dear Members,

We hope this message finds you well and enjoying the summer so far.

As always, we're pleased to stay connected with you through the SAF newsletter – a space to share opportunities, celebrate your achievements, and keep you up to date with what's happening across the apprenticeship community.

In this month's edition, we're spotlighting several exciting opportunities to support your development and help you make the most of your apprenticeship journey. From conference events and poster competitions, to national award nominations and degree-level apprenticeships, there's something for everyone – whether you're looking to share your work, expand your network, or take the next step in your career.

We've also included details of the upcoming Science Apprentice Conference in September – a brilliant chance to meet fellow apprentices, explore emerging technologies, and take part in hands-on workshops. We'd love to see as many of you there as possible.

As always, we're here to support you, so if you have any questions about anything featured in this newsletter – or just want to share your own updates – don't hesitate to get in touch.

Wishing you all a great month ahead!

The Science Apprenticeship Forum Team



Science Apprenticeship Forum Updates!

You may have also noticed that the monthly SAF meetings have been paused due to low attendance. We're looking forward to reconnecting at the Science Apprenticeship Conference in September, and we'll be reviewing how best to engage with you all moving forward.

The Science Apprenticeship Conference is back for its 3rd successive year!

The Science Apprenticeship Conference returns for its 3rd year as the UK's first event dedicated to science apprentices. Taking place at MTC Events in Coventry and hosted by Innovate UK, this year's theme is "**Shaping Your Future**".

Key Details:

- *Date & Location:* 2025, MTC Events, Coventry
- *Partners:* Science Apprenticeship Forum, Innovate UK, Royal Society of Chemistry, Science Council
- *Open to:* All science apprentices or recently completed apprentices
- *Perks:* Counts toward off-the-job training hours; lunch & refreshments included

What to Expect:

- *Workshops & Panels:* Skill-building sessions tailored to apprentices and an interactive Q&A panel with current apprentices
- *Networking:* Meet fellow apprentices, universities, and professional bodies
- *Poster Competition:* Showcase your impact for a chance to win £350 (submit by 3 Sept 2025)
- *Travel Bursary:* Up to £150 available to support travel costs (apply via email)

To get involved:

- Submit poster entries or apply for travel funding via scienceapprenticeshipforum@gmail.com

Don't miss this opportunity to grow your network, enhance your skills, and shape your future!

[Get your tickets here!!](#)



Calls-To-Action

IST Technical Conference 2025

 University of Birmingham

 Thursday, 18th September 2025

 50% off for apprentices and T-Level students!

Theme: Innovating and Evolving in a Changing Landscape

Join talks and workshops across AI, creative tech, health & safety, and career development. Open to anyone working in STEM, creative industries or technical roles.

Register to attend [here!](#)

Poster Competition

Theme: Outreach

[Submit a PDF by 1st September](#) for judging

Display a hard copy at the event

 Prizes up to £100 vouchers (judged by Helen Sharman + sponsors)

 Submit to: office@istonline.org.uk

 Want to help organise the conference? Email to express interest.



Calls-To-Action

BIA Apprentice of the Year Award

Hosted by bioProcessUK, sponsored by Cell & Gene Therapy Catapult

Nominate a colleague or yourself for this new national award celebrating achievements in bioprocessing.

 Deadline: 22nd August

 Send applications to: aclark@bioindustry.org

 Application Form + Criteria: (see attachment or email scienceapprenticeshipforum@gmail.com for the form)

Degree-Level Apprenticeships (L6)

Offered by Northeastern University London – perfect for apprentices looking to upskill, re-skill or explore new paths. Funded via apprenticeship levy.

 Register interest by 14th August

(Social Researcher deadline is end of next week)

Programmes available:

-  Applied Accounting & Finance – ethics, AI, CIMA/IFA fast track
-  Clinical Trials Specialist – cell/gene therapy, pharmacovigilance
-  Data Scientist – machine learning, AWS, Bloomberg Market Certs
-  Bioscience Lab Scientist – digital lab tech, research project
-  Social Researcher – R, STATA, SPSS, policy impact

 To request brochures or a chat with the team, email: annette.England@biomaxconsultancy.co.uk



Key Updates

Apprenticeship Funding Rules 2025-2026

The 2025–2026 funding rules apply to apprenticeships starting between 1 August 2025 and 31 July 2026. These rules apply to employers, employer-providers, and main providers. Different rules apply depending on the apprenticeship start date, so you must follow the correct version for each apprentice.

A summary of changes highlights updates effective from 1 August 2025. A separate document outlines the maximum funding, minimum off-the-job training hours, and expected delivery time. Rules for other years are published separately.

To read more, visit the website [here](#).



Upcoming Events / Dates:

South Asian Heritage Month

18 July - 17 August 2025

Any Other Business (AOB):

Science Apprenticeship Forum Membership Form

As we continue to enhance the way we support and connect with our community, we kindly ask all members to complete the new SAF membership form. This will help us ensure we have the most accurate and up-to-date information about your members.

You can find the form [here!](#)

