

British  
Dressage



**SRA**  
Scottish Racing Academy



**British Dressage  
Apprenticeship  
Programme**

# The British Dressage Apprenticeship Programme

**Supporting your personal development with our training provider for Scotland, the Scottish Racing Academy.**

British Dressage is partnered with Scottish Racing Academy to provide Equine apprenticeship qualifications to individuals working and residing in the Scottish region. An apprenticeship is a hands on way to gain a nationally recognised qualification, industry work experience and valuable training from qualified tutors and experts in the field.

Our programme works by your core course content being delivered by your BD eligible employer, and a BD assessor provided by the Scottish Racing Academy to ensure you are meeting the course standards and assist in any additional learning. You will be working in an equestrian yard that is able to support your learning and training with an eligible employer (see more on page 3).

British Dressage will provide fully funded additional activities known as Added Value Activities, these will be relevant for your course and are designed to support your learning and to provide networking opportunities. As well as access to our Learning Hub and BD Horse Care Tiers for additional qualifications, and the opportunity to achieve our BD Employability Certificate.

## Training & Education Coordinator

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## Scottish Racing Academy point of contact - Fiona Rawson

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# Introduction

British Dressage is the National Governing Body for the Olympic and Paralympic sport of dressage in the UK. If you're passionate about dressage, whatever the level, British Dressage is here to help and support the equestrian workforce and ensure the sport continues to grow from strength to strength with horse welfare and training shaping it's direction.

To be considered for an apprenticeship you can be:

- Seeking employment; you can register your interest through our website or view any vacancies listed on our Jobs Board
- Employed in an eligible place of work; you can sign up to an apprenticeship at any point, you do not need to be a new employee, you should check our employer eligibility criteria to see if you are able to enroll in your current place of work

## Basic Employer Eligibility Requirements

### Employer Requirements

- BD Member

Must be able to demonstrate the necessary technical knowledge to support an apprentice in one of the following ways:

- BD Judge List 3 and above
- BDCC L3 Coach and above
- Competition Criteria – features on the technical trainers, meeting the advanced medium, Prix St George and/ or Grand Prix criteria.

Those holding qualifications issued by another member body but not meeting the technical criteria above, should contact [sian.bryant@britishdressage.co.uk](mailto:sian.bryant@britishdressage.co.uk)



# The Apprenticeship Journey

Your apprenticeship journey will start with securing a position and registering your interest to enroll onto the programme.

As the training provider, Scottish Racing Academy are responsible for issuing the enrolment paperwork for both you and your potential employer. These initial documents include funding paperwork, safeguarding and include health and safety requirements. You are required to complete the application with your name and address including the position you have applied for. If your application meets the basic selection and eligibility criteria outlined, you will be provided with a training agreement from Skills Development Scotland.

You will be required to complete a Skills Scan and may be asked questions about this. The Skills Scan is to ensure that you are placed on an apprenticeship level relevant for you and your future development.

Once enrolled and on course in your place of work, you will have monthly sessions with your assessor both online and in person, they will carry out knowledge and skills assessments, provide support, assist in action planning and signpost to relevant resources or learning where required.

Scottish Racing Academy prioritises a holistic approach to assessments. Providing the criteria requirements are met, assessments can be in multiple forms, including videos, witness testimonies and professional discussions.



<b>Initial assessment</b>	Complete onboarding and Skills Scan
<b>Begin Apprenticeship</b>	Learning and development, on the job training, off the job training.
<b>Ongoing Assessments</b>	Apprentice showcases knowledge and skills relevant for their qualification throughout the duration of their course.
<b>Apprentice Awarded</b>	Qualification Awarded

# Finding Your Level

**Scottish Racing Academy offers Modern Apprenticeships. This is a work-based learning programme that combines on the job training with a recognised qualification.**

## SVQ Level 5

- Be aged 16 or over
- Work and reside in Scotland

## SVQ Level 6

- Be aged 16 or over
- Work and reside in Scotland
- Have relevant demonstrateable industry experience for the chosen qualification

# Apprenticeship Courses

## Level 5 Horse Care Modern

An entry level course ideal for individuals working under supervision or as part of a team

### Duration: 12-18 months

A suitable route for those wishing to develop and learn new skills. As an equine groom you will be committed to the safety and welfare of the horses under your supervision, providing essential day-to-day care, including feeding, grooming, cleaning equipment, handling, preparing for exercises and carrying out routine yard duties.

This is an ideal route for someone with limited equine experience.



## Level 6 Horse Care Modern

For candidates who work in an equine yard and are in sole charge for at least a period of time within their working week

### Duration: 12-18 months

This apprenticeship course is for developed equine professionals who wish to build skills in leadership and management whilst working in an equine facility.

This apprenticeship will build on current skills and knowledge, and expand on the key competencies around horse care and yard management



# Why Choose BD and Scottish Racing Academy?

Choosing to start your apprenticeship with British Dressage ensures that you will receive ongoing support and expert training, both at work and from your assessor. We ensure that your employer must meet a certain standard and have the technical knowledge and experience, as well as good employment practices and standards. On top of this, British Dressage grants you access to our BD Learning Hub where you have complimentary access to the BD Horse Care Tiers and provides fully funded Additional Activities throughout your apprenticeship course. With all these extras you have the opportunity to earn additional qualifications, and a chance to earn the [BD Employability Certificate](#).

## Added Value Activities

During the programme, there will be a range of extra activities, trips and experience days to choose from. These will all be supported by a course tutor and key members of BD personnel to provide unique opportunities and training to grow your knowledge and experience.

These may include, online seminars relevant to your chosen course, invitations to BD events such as The Principles of Dressage and BD Presents. Invitations to High Profile Shows and National Competitions where sessions with BD Judges or Coaches may be organised, plus many more activities designed to boost learning and provide networking opportunities.



## BD Employability Certificate

Alongside completion of your apprenticeship qualification is the chance to earn a BD Employability Certificate. This is formal recognition by British Dressage of your engagement and commitment to your apprenticeship qualification. This can be in the form of attending Added Value Activities, using resources available such as the Learning Hub and completion of the BD Horse Care Tiers or engaging in other BD activity.

### Learning Hub

As part of your apprenticeship package, you will have a Learning Hub account created for you, and this will grant you access to 20+ courses all created and designed by experts in the field. The Learning Hub can be used as part of your off-the-job training, build your portfolio, show evidence of additional learning and knowledge through completion of courses and gaining course certificates.

This one easy to use platform includes our 5 Horse Care Tiers, from Introductory to Advanced, and topics from Customer Care, Equine Health, Preparing for Competition, Welfare and Safeguarding Reporting and many more.



### BD Horse Care

Included as part of your apprenticeship enrollment with BD, is complimentary access to the BD Horse Care Programme. This is a combination of online and practical learning modules spanning across five tiers in total, starting at the Introductory Horse Care Certificate and progressing to the Advanced Horse Care Certificate.

We will knowledge match relevant tiers to your apprenticeship level, meaning you can earn additional certified achievements during your apprenticeship. You can also work through the courses at your own pace and this will help you build your knowledge and portfolio for either Level 5 Horse Care or Level 6 Horse Care courses.

## British Grooms Association and the Equestrian Employers Association

British Dressage are proud to support the work of British Grooms Association and the Equestrian Employers Association. To find out more about these organisations view their websites or click on the link below to watch this short video:

**[British Grooms Association - Your career working with horses](#)**

**[britishgrooms.org.uk](http://britishgrooms.org.uk)**

**[equestrianemployers.org.uk](http://equestrianemployers.org.uk)**

# Next Steps

- 1 Register your interest with British Dressage through the BD website or via email
- 2 Discuss your options and the apprenticeship course you are interested in
- 3 Your contact at BD will introduce you to the training provider
- 4 Begin the onboarding process; digital information packs and tasks
- 5 Complete the self-assessment Skills Scan
- 6 Organise your onboarding meetings with BD and training representatives
- 7 Introduction to your course assessor and course expectations
- 8 Your apprenticeship is ready to begin



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Do I need to be a BD Member?**

No, apprentices do not need to be a member of BD.

## **What if I am already employed?**

The programme is open to both new and current employees. Providing your employer meets our eligibility criteria you can apply to enroll onto a relevant apprenticeship course.

## **What are the costs associated?**

Apprenticeship courses in Scotland are fully funded by the Scottish Government and Skills Development Scotland. As an apprentice you will receive a working wage alongside your training, and your Added Value Activities are fully funded. Only travel costs will need to be covered.

## **How do I know if I'm eligible to apply?**

- All applicants must be over the age of 16
- Not be in full time education





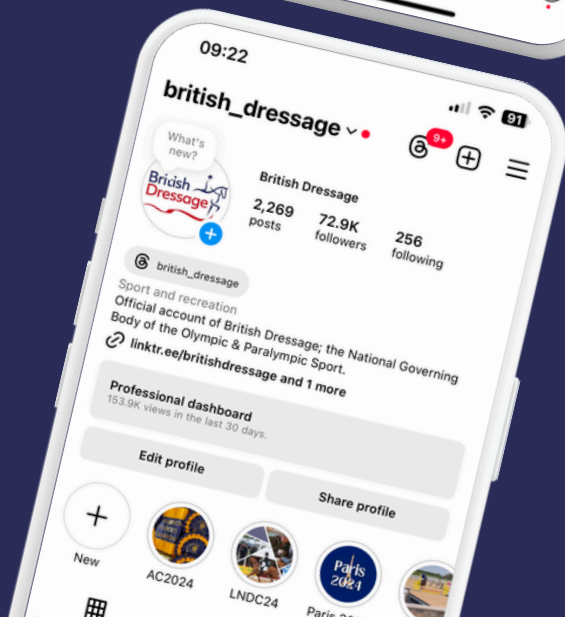
# Start Your Journey

Contact British Dressage or Scottish Racing Academy to find out more about the BD Apprenticeship programme and how you can achieve qualifications with us.

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Scan to visit BD Apprenticeships online and take the next step, find us on social media too!



[britishdressage.co.uk](http://britishdressage.co.uk)