

HIGHER EDUCATION DIGITAL GUIDE 2025-26



The first FE College in the UK to be awarded Apple Distinguished School status



Ofsted Graded GOOD (2024)



Our close partnerships with universities give you the option to top up your Higher National Certificate or Diploma to a full honours degree.



Flexible study options, part-time, evenings or online classes so you can fit your study around work and other life commitments



Take advantage of the various options to help pay for your course



New Electric & Hybrid Vehicle Training Centre – opened February 2023



Great location - Harlow is at the centre of The London-Stansted-Cambridge Innovation Corridor



Institute of Technology - £3m investment in new state-of-the-art Centre



New Renewable Energy Training Centre – helping to meet Net Zero by 2050



83% of Harlow College Access to Higher Education learners secured their first place university choice (2024)



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UCAS Key Dates

GO

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Choose a Study Pathway

Level 4 & 5 HNCs & HNDs

A Higher National Certificate (HNC) is a Level 4 vocational qualification that takes one year to complete. After your HNC, you can continue your studies by progressing to a Higher National Diploma (HND). An HND is equivalent to the second year of university.

Professional Diplomas

We offer a variety of courses offering flexible study options to work alongside work and other life commitments e.g. evenings, online learning and once a month in the classroom.

Higher Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are not just for new recruits. Employers can invest in their current staff by upskilling them through a Higher Apprenticeship.

Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs)

Some of our courses have been accredited by the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education as HTQs. This means that the qualification has been developed in collaboration with employers so that our students get the specific training required for their chosen career.

Access to Higher Education

If you would like to go to university but don't have the qualifications you need, then an Access to Higher Education course could be for you. A typical Access course is 3/4 days a week, 9.30am to 3pm. The cost of these courses is wiped if you successfully complete a Higher Education course, making it an affordable pathway to university.

Progression Journey

Use this chart to see how you can progress to the next level.

Level 6	Full-time/Part-time options Degree 1 year top-up degree Professional Qualifications	Employer-based options Degree Level Apprenticeship
Level 5	Full-time/ Part-time options Higher National Diploma Professional Qualifications Higher Technical Qualifications Foundation degrees	Employer-based options Higher Level Apprenticeship
Level 4	Full-time/Part-time options Higher National Certificate Professional Qualifications Higher Technical Qualifications	Employer-based options Higher Level Apprenticeship

Progress to Higher Education (Level 4 & above)

Access to
Higher Education
Diploma

T Levels
Vocational courses
(i.e BTEC, Extended
Diplomas, UAL)

A Levels
Apprenticeships

Further Education (Level 3 & below)





Student Finance

There are several options of financial help available for Higher Education courses, ranging from 19+ Advanced Learner Loans to a student loan from Student Finance England.

The Student Loan:

Colleges and universities charge tuition fees for Higher Education courses. Most people are eligible to receive a student loan to cover this fee. This loan is available from the government via Student Finance England.

As a Higher Education student you can apply for a range of financial help with living and study costs, loans (which have to be paid back), and grants (which don't have to be paid back).

If you plan to study Higher Education at Harlow College, you may not have to pay for tuition fees upfront. Every new student may be entitled to a Tuition Fee Loan that will cover your fees and this won't be paid back until you're earning a certain level of income.

19+ Advanced Learner Loans:

Advanced Learner Loans are available for courses at Level 3 to 5 and are only paid back once you start earning £27,295 a year (before tax and other deductions).

More information:

For more information about Tuition Fee Loans, contact our Admissions Team:

01279 868100 admissions@harlow-college.ac.uk

Student Finance

Student Support

Student Support and Wellbeing

We are committed to safeguarding all Harlow College students by ensuring a safe learning environment where students feel secure, protected from harm, to be listened to and to be heard.

Additional Support

Additional support is available to students who receive a Disabled Student Allowance (DSA). The application for support can be accessed via the DSA website which you will be able to apply for once you have completed your UCAS application. Once funding is confirmed we will work with you to arrange the support you need. We aim to ensure that the Harlow College experience is accessible to you.

Smaller Class Sizes

You will benefit from smaller class sizes meaning more one-to-one time with your tutor.

Student Voice

Your views matter and at Harlow College we make sure they're heard. Whether it's becoming a student governor, course representative or taking part in learner voice surveys and groups, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved with student life.

Enrichment Offer

Taking part in enrichment will help you to develop the important wider skills that employers are always looking for. As well as giving you new challenges and developing your skills you will make new friends and have some fun!





What is the Institute of Technology?

Our IoT centre offers flexible higher technical qualifications and apprenticeships that can fit around your needs. We offer prestigious and affordable education options, whether you're starting out at 18, or taking a new direction later in life.

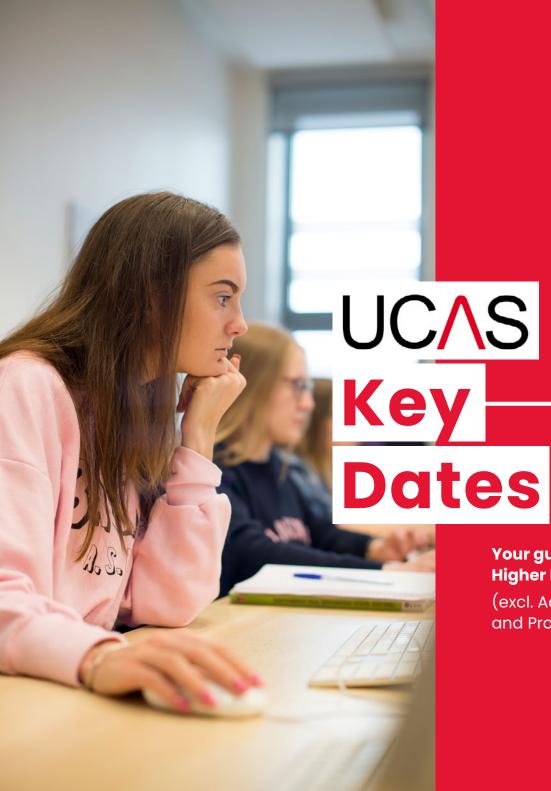
Importantly, the IoT will equip you with the skills that employers need, through high quality training, industry-expert teachers, and access to state-of-the-art equipment and facilities. Our qualifications are developed with respected industry partners, which means plenty of opportunities for you to meet employers, and reassurance that the skills you are learning are relevant to the job market.

Employers can be confident that people studying at an IoT are gaining the skills needed now and in the future.



HTQ qualifications are marked with '(HTQ)' in this digital guide





Your guide to applying for a Higher Education course

(excl. Access to Higher Education and Professional Diplomas)

Completed UCAS Undergraduate applications can be sent to UCAS. All sections must be complete, the reference added, and the application fee paid.

3 September 2024

10 July 2024

UCAS Conservatoires applications open for 2025 entry. Applicants can register, pay, and submit their applications to UCAS.

29 January 2025

UCAS deadline for applications. Universities and colleges do not have to consider applications received after the deadline, although they can if they have spaces available once the on-time applications have been considered.

UCAS Extra 2025 opens.
If you have used all five choices on your original application and do not have an offer, you can add another choice using UCAS Extra.

26 February 2025 Clearing opens

5 July 2025

30 June 2025

Last date for receipt of applications with choices. Applications received after this deadline are automatically entered into Clearing.

Your Higher Education course will typically start from September/October. Start dates vary depending on your course.

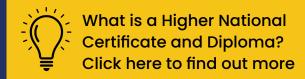
October 2025

August 2025

Results day for Level 3 programmes. You will receive your results this month. Make sure you have checked confirmation of your choice. You may need to enter the Clearing process.

The journey of a UCAS application

Find out more



Aerospace & Engineering

Aerospace engineers are at the forefront of ground breaking technologies like rockets, spacesuits, and aircraft. They design, plan, and test cutting-edge technology globally. A career in this field could involve wing design, engine assembly, fuel efficiency, space technology, or air accident investigations.

Based in our state-of-the-art workshops at Harlow College and Stansted Airport College, you will gain a wide range of scientific and engineering knowledge linked to practical skills obtained through research, independent study and workplace scenarios and will have sound knowledge of the basic concepts of general engineering and aeronautical engineering.



Level 5	Course Higher National Diploma Engineering for England (HTQ) Higher National Diploma Aeronautical Engineering (HTQ)	Duration 2 years Full-time 2 years Full-time	Cost £5995 £5995	UCAS code	Find out more
Level 4	Course Higher National Certificate Engineering for England (HTQ) Higher National Certificate Aeronautical Engineering (HTQ)	Duration 1 year Full-time 2 years Part-time 1 year Full-time 2 years Part-time	Cost £5995 £5995	UCAS code	Find out more

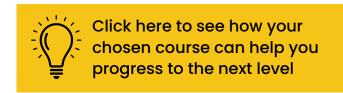


Construction & Civil Engineering

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Learn the essential principles of planning, designing and managing construction projects from initial concept to final operation. Civil engineers work on major projects such as bridges, buildings, and transport systems. They use advanced computer modelling software and data from surveys, tests and maps to create detailed project blueprints.

Our purpose-built workshops and construction areas provide hands-on training, simulating real-world scenarios to give you practical experience in the field.



Level 5	Course Higher National Diploma Construction Management (HTQ)	Duration 2 year Full-time	Cost £5995	UCAS code HDCM	Find out more
Level 4	Course Higher National Certificate Construction Management (HTQ)	Duration 1 year Full-time 2 years Part-time	Cost £5995	UCAS code HCCM	Find out more
Level 3	Course Access to Higher Education Construction & The Built Environment	Duration 1 year Full-time	Cost £3384*		Find out more

^{*}Fund this through an Advanced Learner Loan that you may not have to pay back

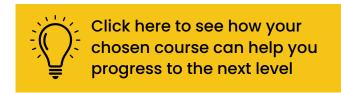
Advanced Learner Loan



Cyber Security

Cybersecurity specialists enjoy exceptional demand and job security. Research by the government into Cyber Security skills in the UK labour market estimates that between 30-48% of all businesses in the UK have a basic or more advanced skills gap in their organisations.

Studying in our modern facilities will open the door to many exciting career opportunities, including software engineering; applications development and testing; data analytics; network engineering and cyber security.



Level 5	Course Higher National Diploma Computing for England (Cyber Security)	Duration 2 years Full-time	Cost £5995	UCAS code HDEC	Find out more
Level 4	Course Higher National Certificate Computing for England (Cyber Security)	Duration 1 year Full-time 2 years Part-time	Cost £5995	UCAS Code HCEC	Find out more





Healthcare scientists use a range of science, engineering and technology skills to prevent, diagnose and treat a range of medical conditions. We offer a range of courses from Level 3 and above in Dental Nursing, Counselling and Psychology and Medicine, all studied in our modern and hi-tech facilities, including our recently opened Institute of Technology Centre. The college has strong links with local healthcare providers including The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust, allowing access to industry expertise and the opportunity to be involved in exciting collaborative projects.

Level 5	Course Higher National Diploma Counselling and Applied Psychology	Duration 2 year Full-time	Cost £5995	UCAS code HDCP	Find out more
Level 4	Course Higher National Certificate Counselling and Applied Psychology	Duration 1 year Full-time 2 years Part-time	Cost £5995	UCAS code HCCP	Find out more
Level 3	Course Access to Higher Education Medicine Access to Higher Education Health Professions Access to Higher Education Psychology and Counselling	1 year Full-time	Cost £3384* £3384*		Find out more Find out more
	this through an Advanced Loar				

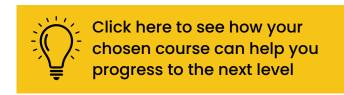
^{*}Fund this through an Advanced Learner Loan that you may not have to pay back

Advanced Learner Loan





Understanding the basics of business in today's world of work is an essential foundation for your future career, including Leadership and Management and Accounting. Delivered with a balance of online and on-campus, you will experience different real-life scenarios that will enhance and advance your skills for business and management.



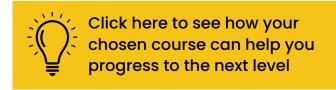
Level 5	Course Higher National Diploma Leadership & Management for England (HTQ) CMI Leadership and Management	Duration 2 years Full-time 10 weeks - 1 year Part-time	Cost £5995 from £350	UCAS code HDLM	Find out more
Level 4	Course Higher National Certificate Leadership & Management for England (HTQ) AAT Accounting	Duration 1 year Full-time 2 years Part-time 18 months Part-time	Cost £5995 £3064	HCLM	Find out more Find out more



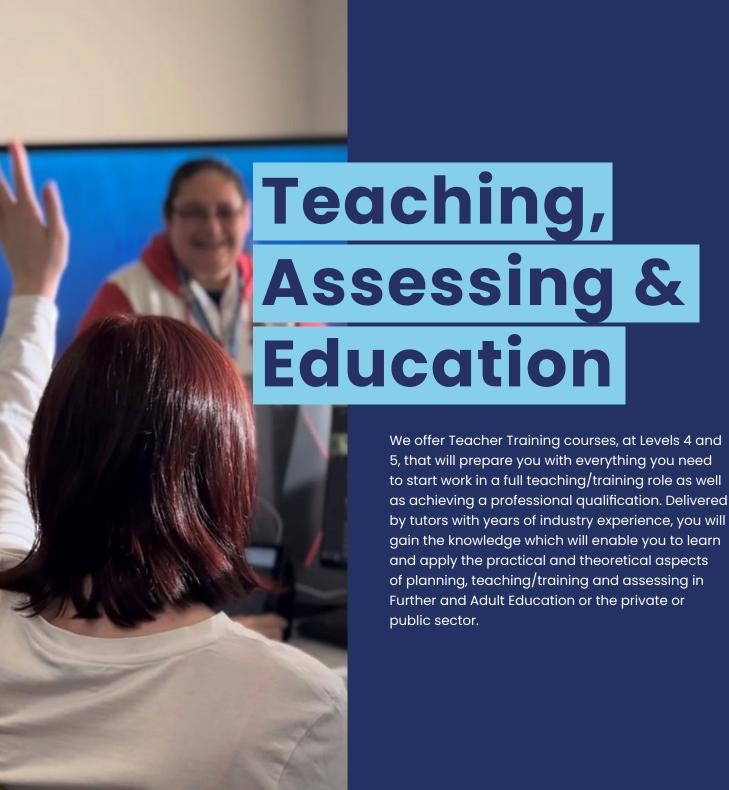


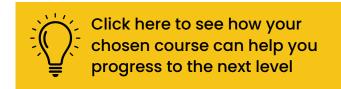
Level 4	Course Creative Technologies - Games, Multimedia and Graphics	Duration 1 year Full-time	Cost	Find out more
	Performance	1 year Full-time	£4670	Find out more





	Course	Duration	Cost	
Level 4	Salon Management	1 year Part-time	£3345	Find out more



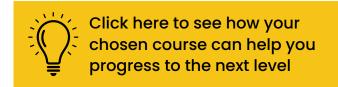


Level 5	Course Teacher Training - Education & Training	Duration 51 weeks Part-time	Cost £3660	Find out more
Level 4	Course Teacher Training - Education & Training	Duration 30 weeks Part-time	Cost £950	Find out more
	TAQA - Training, Assessment & Quality Assurance	4 weeks Part-time	from £390	Find out more



The public sector is the UK's largest employer and includes central and local government, the armed forces and the emergency services.

This Access course is designed for students to gain entry to approved degrees that offer Criminology/ Criminal Justice & Policing Studies. The course is specifically designed to cater for students who want to learn about crime, psychology and the criminal justice system. They will gain a criminology and criminal psychology foundation and explore topics such as offender profiling, stalking psychopathology, gender, race and discrimination, crime scene investigation.



Course Duration Cost

Level 3

Access to Higher Education
Criminal Justice & Policing

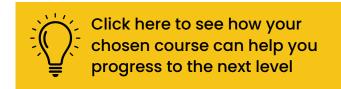
1 year Full-time

£3384*

Find out more

^{*}Fund this through an Advanced Learner Loan that you may not have to pay back





Level 5	Learning and Skills Teacher Apprenticeship	18 months	Find out more
	Course	Duration	
	Engineering Manufacturing Technician	42 months	Eind autonom
	Apprenticeship		Find out more
Level 4	Automation & Controls Engineering Technician Apprenticeship	42 months	Find out more
	Lead Engineering Maintenance Technician	36 months	
	Apprenticeship	30 111011013	Find out more
	Oral Health Practitioner Apprenticeship	14 months	Find out more

What is a Higher Apprenticeship?

A Higher Apprenticeship is an Apprenticeship at Level 4 or above. Level 4 Apprenticeships are equivalent to the first year of an undergraduate degree, or a Higher National Certificate (HNC). Level 5 Apprenticeships are equivalent to a foundation degree, or a Higher National Diploma (HND).

What are the benefits?

You're an employee and as such will get paid a salary, have a holiday allowance and be entitled to sick pay.

You'll gain professional experience in your chosen career and put what you learn into daily practice.

You won't have to pay any study costs, as they're co-funded by your employer and the government.

Many apprentices end up staying with the same company they did their Apprenticeship with after qualifying.

How do Higher Apprenticeships work?

An Apprenticeship is like a job, but with an added element of study. You'll spend most of your time doing on-the-job training and the rest studying with your college or training provider.

At the end of the Apprenticeship, you'll have an assessment to check you can confidently perform your role. If you pass, you'll be awarded your Apprenticeship. The assessment is nothing to worry about, you'll have been building up to it throughout your time on the Apprenticeship and will be well prepared.

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Find us on Google Maps

For general enquiries: 01279 868000 www.harlow-college.ac.uk

For course enquiries: 01279 868100 admissions@harlow-college.ac.uk



