

**HARLOW
COLLEGE**

**HIGHER
EDUCATION
DIGITAL GUIDE
2026-27**



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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**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 full-time, and two years part-time. 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)

Most 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.

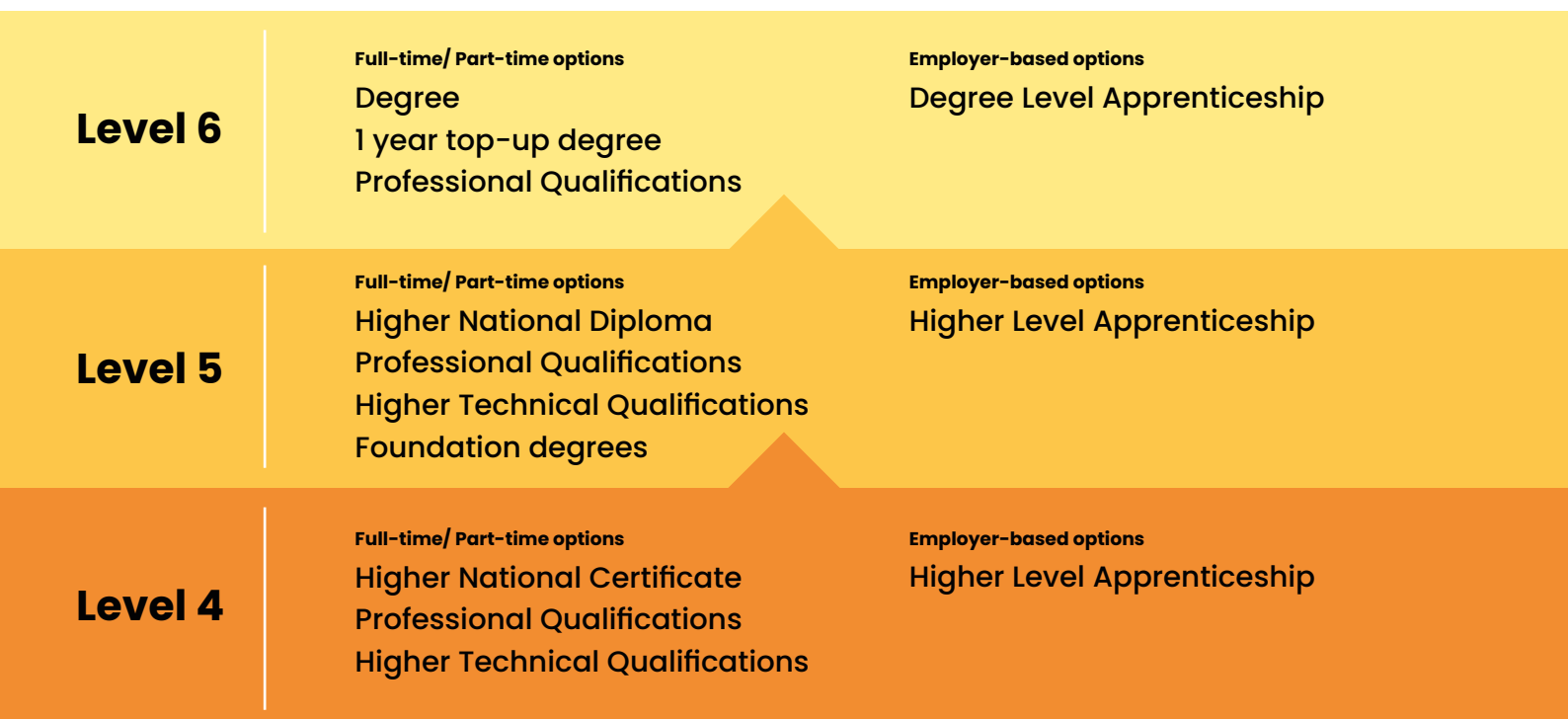
Access to Higher Education

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. The cost of these courses is wiped if you successfully complete a Higher Education course, making it an affordable pathway to university.

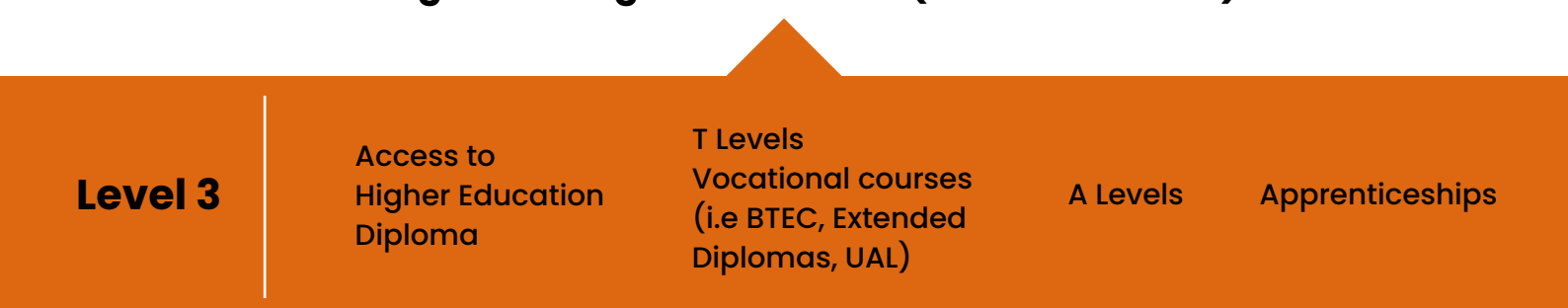
Find out more

Progression Journey

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



Progress to Higher Education (Level 4 & above)



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 ambassador, 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!

Welcome to the Institute of Technology





SOUTH EAST

I	N	S	T	I	T	U	T	E	OF
T	E	C	H	N	O	L	O	G	Y

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.



Take a video tour
of our Institute of
Technology





UCAS

Key

Dates

Undergraduate
applications
open for 2026 entry

**13 May
2025**

**Your guide to applying for a
Higher Education course**

(excl. Access to Higher Education
and Professional Diplomas)



UCAS Extra 2026 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
2026**

Clearing opens

**2 July
2026**

**30 June
2026**

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
2026**

**5 July
2025**

**August
2026**

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



Click here to see how your
chosen course can help you
progress to the next level

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	Duration	Cost	UCAS code	Find out more
	Higher National Diploma Aeronautical Engineering for England - HTQ	2 years Full-time	£6185	HDAN	
Level 4	Course	Duration	Cost	UCAS code	Find out more
	Higher National Certificate Electrical and Electronic Engineering for England - HTQ	1 year Full-time 2 years Part-time	£6185	HCEL	
	Higher National Certificate Aeronautical Engineering for England - HTQ	1 year Full-time	£6185	HCAN	Find out more
Level 3	Course	Duration	Cost		Find out more
	Access to Higher Education Construction & The Built Environment	1 year Full-time	£3928*		



Click here to see how your chosen course can help you progress to the next level

Construction & Civil Engineering

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.



**How do I apply for
a course?**

[Click here to find out more](#)

Level 5

Course

Higher National Diploma
Construction Management
for England (Construction
Site Supervisor) - HTQ

Duration

2 year Full-time

Cost

£6185

UCAS code

HDCO

[Find out more](#)

Level 4

Course

Higher National Certificate
Construction Management
for England (Construction
Site Supervisor) - HTQ

Duration

1 year Full-time
2 years Part-time

Cost

£6185

UCAS code

HCCO

[Find out more](#)

Level 3

Course

Access to Higher Education
Construction &
The Built Environment

Duration

1 year Full-time

Cost

£3928*

[Find out more](#)

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

Advanced Learner Loan



Click here to see how your chosen course can help you progress to the next level

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.



How do I apply for a course?

Click here to find out more

Level 5	Course	Duration	Cost	UCAS code	
	Higher National Diploma Computing for England (Cyber Security) - HTQ	2 years Full-time 4 years Part-time	£6185	HDEC	Find out more
Level 4	Course	Duration	Cost	UCAS Code	
	Higher National Certificate Computing for England (Cyber Security) - HTQ	1 year Full-time 2 years Part-time	£6185	HCEC	Find out more



What is a Higher National Certificate and Diploma?
[Click here to find out more](#)

Health Science

Healthcare specialists 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 4	Course	Duration	Cost	
	Higher National Certificate Counselling and Applied Psychology	2 years Part-time	£6185	Find out more
Level 3	Course	Duration	Cost	
	Access to Higher Education Medicine	1 year Full-time	£3384*	Find out more
	Access to Higher Education Health Professions (Nursing & Midwifery)	1 year Full-time	£3384*	Find out more
	Access to Higher Education Psychology and Counselling	1 year Full-time	£3384*	Find out more

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

Advanced Learner Loan



Click here to see how your chosen course can help you progress to the next level

Business, Marketing & Management

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.



How do I apply for a course?

[Click here to find out more](#)

Level 5

Course	Duration	Cost	UCAS code	
Higher National Diploma Leadership & Management for England - HTQ	2 years Full-time 4 years Part-time	£6185	HDLM	Find out more
CMI Leadership and Management	10 weeks - 1 year Part-time	from £350		Find out more

Level 4

Course	Duration	Cost		
Higher National Certificate Leadership & Management for England - HTQ	1 year Full-time 2 years Part-time	£6185	HCLM	Find out more
Higher National Certificate Marketing Management - HTQ	1 year Full-time 2 years Part-time	£6185	HCMM	Find out more



Creative & Performing Arts



**How do I apply for
a course?**

[Click here to find out more](#)

Level 4	Course	Duration	Cost	
	Creative Technologies - Games, Multimedia and Graphics	1 year Full-time	£5421**	Find out more
	Performance	1 year Full-time	£4670**	Find out more
	Creative Enterprise - Journalism and Media	1 year Full-time	£4670**	Find out more

**Fund this through an Advanced Learner Loan

Advanced Learner Loan

A photograph of a classroom scene. In the background, a woman with glasses and a red and white jacket is smiling. In the foreground, the back of a student's head with reddish-brown hair is visible. The right side of the image has a dark blue background with white text.

Teaching, Assessing & Education

We offer Teacher Training courses, at Levels 4 and 5, that will prepare you with everything you need to start work in a full teaching/training role as well as achieving a professional qualification. Delivered by tutors with years of industry experience, you will gain the knowledge which will enable you to learn and apply the practical and theoretical aspects of planning, teaching/training and assessing in Further and Adult Education or the private or public sector.

Level 5	Course	Duration	Cost	
	Learning and Skills Teacher Apprenticeship	18 months	Employer Levy	Find out more
Level 4	Course	Duration	Cost	
	Teacher Training - Education & Training	30 weeks Part-time	£950	Find out more
	TAQA - Training, Assessment & Quality Assurance	4 weeks - 1 year Part-time	from £390	Find out more
Level 3	Course	Duration	Cost	
	Teacher Training - Education & Training	30 weeks	£450	Find out more



Public Services

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.



How do I apply for a course?

Click here to find out more

Level 3	Course	Duration	Cost	
	Access to Higher Education Criminal Justice & Policing	1 year Full-time	£3022*	Find out more

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

Advanced Learner Loan



Higher

Apprenticeships



How do I apply for a course?

[Click here to find out more](#)

Level 5

Course

Learning and Skills Teacher Apprenticeship

Duration

18 months

[Find out more](#)

Level 4

Course

Engineering Manufacturing Technician Apprenticeship

Duration

42 months
(Plus 3 months EPA)

[Find out more](#)

Automation & Controls Engineering Technician Apprenticeship

42 months
(Plus 3 months EPA)

[Find out more](#)

Lead Engineering Maintenance Technician Apprenticeship

36 months
(Plus 3 months EPA)

[Find out more](#)

Oral Health Practitioner Apprenticeship

14 months
(Plus 3 months EPA)

[Find out more](#)

Access to Higher Education





What is an Access to Higher Education course?

An Access to Higher Education course is a 1 year pre-university course that prepares adults for study at university.

This course is ideal if you have been out of education for a while, are planning a career change or are looking to upskill in your current job.

A typical Access course is 2-3 days a week, 9.30am-3pm and are taken by students of all ages and backgrounds.

Most Access to Higher Education students pay for their course with a 19+ Advanced Learner Loan. Any outstanding Advanced Learner Loan balances you owe for an Access to HE course will be 'written off' once you complete a higher education course. This means you do not have to repay it.

It's really easy to apply for an Advanced Learner Loan. Simply contact our friendly Admissions team who will explain everything you need to know and get you started.

**Getting you to University
with an Access to Higher
Education Course**

University

**Level 5
Higher National
Diploma**

**Level 4
Higher National
Certificate**

**Access to
Higher Education
Course**



How do I apply for a course?

[Click here to find out more](#)

Level 3

Course	Duration	Cost	
Access to Construction & The Built Environment	1 year Full-time	£3928	Find out more
Access to Criminal Justice & Policing	1 year Full-time	£3022	Find out more
Access to Health Professions (Nursing & Midwifery)	1 year Full-time	£3384	Find out more
Access to Medicine	1 year Full-time	£3384	Find out more
Access to Psychology & Counselling	1 year Full-time	£3384	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.



A large, light pink circle is positioned on the left side of a solid red background. The circle is partially cut off by the left edge of the frame. The text 'How to Apply' is centered within the circle.

How to Apply

How to apply for a Higher National Certificate or Higher National Diploma

Part-time

To apply for one of our HNC or HNDs on a part-time basis, please contact our Admissions Team or submit your application online via the Harlow College website:
www.harlow-college.ac.uk/highereducation

Full-time

To apply for one of our HNC or HNDs on a full-time basis, please complete your application through the UCAS website.

How to apply for a Higher Apprenticeship

To apply for a Higher Apprenticeship please complete an online application via our Harlow College website.

Visit www.harlow-college.ac.uk/apprenticeships

How to apply for a Level 4 or 5 Professional Diploma

To apply for a Level 4 or 5 Professional Diploma please complete an online application form via our Harlow College website.

If you are a current Harlow College student, speak to your Personal Development Coach (PDC)

Contact us

If you would like further information or assistance with applying for a Higher Education course please contact our friendly Admissions Team:

t: 01279 868100

e: admissions@harlow-college.ac.uk

Our phone lines are open:
Monday to Thursday 8.45am-5pm
Friday 8.45am-4.30pm

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Harlow, Essex
CM20 3LH

**Find us on
Google Maps**

For general enquiries:
01279 868000
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For course enquiries:
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Distinguished
School

