

Success stories

Your name

Tyler Williams-Graham

Your apprenticeship programme

Level 4 Network Engineer

About you

I am a young black man from Waltham Forest. I didn't go to college or university. I started work in IT through a Government scheme called Kickstart. (which started towards the end of Covid). They liked me and kept me on after the scheme ended. I started with just GCSEs and I'm now months away from having a level 4 in Network engineering.



Why did you choose an apprenticeship?

I never liked tests in school and apprenticeships gave me a way to get qualified without going down the traditional learning route. Additionally, it meant I could learn while I earned.

How has the apprenticeship enhanced your career?

It gave me the opportunity to get qualified, which I thought I missed out on by not going to college or university. The programme not only allowed me to rapidly gain new skills, but due to the open communication between my DLC (Thomas Eaves) and my employer it allowed for more opportunities for me to take a leadership role on task, again allowing me to gain skills.

What did your apprenticeship mean to you?

Everything! Since I didn't go college or university the apprenticeship for me meant I didn't waste those years that I didn't go to college. It meant I could start helping out my family with bills.

What was the biggest challenge you faced and how did you overcome it?

It's easy to get overwhelmed, you're doing a job and studying for a course. I overcame this by taking a break, whether it a day out at the park or spending time with family. These breaks allowed me to remain focused when it mattered.

What advice would you give to an existing apprentice?

Opportunity might knock, but it won't wait around for you. So take every chance you get.