



Government  
Economic  
Service

In partnership with:

University of  
**Kent**



★ RATEMYAPPRENTICESHIP  
**BEST 100**  
**APPRENTICESHIP**  
**EMPLOYERS**  
2022 - 2023

# Candidate Pack

## Government Economic Service Degree

## Apprenticeship Programme (GESDAP) 2023

Applications open: Monday 19 December 2022

Applications close: Tuesday 14 February 2024 (11:55 PM)

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# A message from our Claire and Sam...

*“We are incredibly proud of the work of economists in the civil service.*

*Our relevant, rigorous and respected analysis has put us at the heart of major policy decisions over the years and the GES has come to be recognised as a highly effective body of professional economists.*

*A key part of this is our commitment to having a diverse workforce, attracting the brightest and the best, and creating an environment in which economists from all backgrounds thrive and succeed.”*

**- Sam Beckett and Claire Lombardelli, Joint-Heads of GES**



**Claire Lombardelli**



**Sam Beckett**

# What is GESDAP?

The Government Economic Service (GES) is a professional body for economists in the UK Civil Service, established in 1964. GES members are employed, paid and managed by their departments or agencies. The GES helps the government to make decisions based on high quality analysis.



The **Government Economic Service Degree Apprenticeship Programme** is the first degree-level economics apprenticeship in the UK.

## A Unique Opportunity

The programme offers you a unique 4-year opportunity to work in a central government department or agency on some of the most **important social, environmental and economic issues** our country faces – whilst studying for a degree in economics.

## Study at the University of Kent

You will complete your studies with the **University of Kent** over 4 years– selected to deliver the programme because of the strength of their economics courses and the support they will offer to apprentices throughout your time on the programme.

## A Fully Funded Degree

Your level 6 apprenticeship will be funded by the department or agency you are placed in, via the apprenticeship levy. This means you **will not have to pay** any tuition fees for your degree!

## Permanent Job Offer

If you successfully complete your apprenticeship with a 2:1 or above, you will be offered a permanent position in the GES, earning a minimum of **£27,000**.

# What is an Apprentice Economist?



£20,826 minimum salary (London based), £18,108 minimum salary (national)

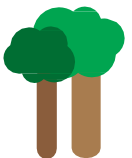


37 Hour working week, with 20% of this time spent on studying

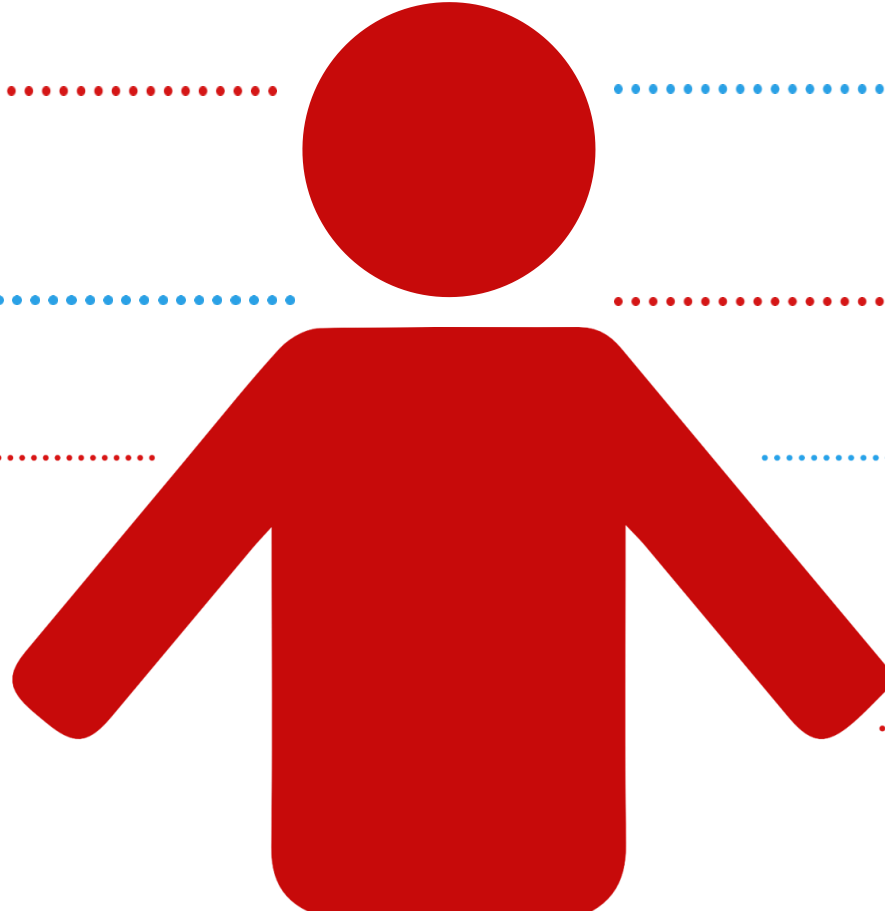
Working on policy areas, such as:



How government can support small businesses to grow



How government can act to protect the environment



Start date September 2022



The apprenticeship programme has opportunities **nationwide**



Part of a **vibrant and fast-growing community** of over 2000 government economists.



Supported by a range of colleagues and staff at the University of Kent



# What will I learn?

You will get first-hand experience of how government works and how policies are made. 80% of your time will be spent working, while the remaining 20% is dedicated to studying.

**Working as a member of the GES involves the development and use of:**

- Quantitative skills: manipulating and presenting data
- Writing and presentation techniques: communicating economics clearly and succinctly to senior officials and ministers
- Applied economics skills: using economic insights to inform decisions on anything from the environment to transport



**The degree in Economics will be comprised of:**

- Microeconomics: how individuals and firms make decisions, interaction of supply and demand
- Macroeconomics: how the economy works at a national and international level
- Econometrics: the use of data to test theories and evaluate changes in government policies



# Entry requirements



- **Academic requirements:**
  - Have a minimum of five GCSE (including Maths at grade B (Level 6) or above and English Language at C (Level 4) or above. Or equivalent
  - Have or expect to gain a minimum of 96 UCAS points under the 2017 tariff point system (e.g., CCC at A Level or equivalent qualifications, not including General Studies). **[Click here for the UCAS Tariff Calculator.](#)**
- **Eligibility requirements:**
  - You need to have the right to work in the UK.
  - Resided in the UK for at least the previous 3 years before the start of the apprenticeship.
  - **[Meet the Civil Service Nationality Rules.](#)**
  - We do not offer sponsorship for this programme.
  - **[Please click here for more information](#)**



# Application FAQs

- **Question: I have previously applied for last year's apprenticeship scheme and I wasn't successful can I apply?**
  - **Answer:** Yes, if you have applied in a previous year, you can apply again. It's not unusual to succeed after 2 or 3 attempts. However, you can only apply once in each recruitment campaign. Information from previous applications will not be available to assessors.
- **Question: Is security clearance required?**
  - **Answer:** Yes. If successful you must hold, or be willing to obtain, security clearance to CTC/SC/DV level. Certain departments require a 3-year footprint in the UK. More information about the vetting process can be found [here](#).
- **Question: I am currently doing an apprenticeship, can I apply?**
  - **Answer:** Yes, but you will need to finish your EPA and have your grade by the GESDAP start date in Sept 23.
- **Question: I am a current Civil Servant, can I apply?**
  - **Answer:** Of course, as long as you meet the entry requirements!







# Application FAQs (continued)

- **Question: Can I choose which department I will work for?**
  - **Answer:** We take into account your location preferences when assigning you to a department, but we cannot guarantee that you will get your choice of location/department..
- **Question: Can I apply if I already have a degree?**
  - **Answer:** Yes, as long as the degree is not in economics.
- **Question: Why has someone received their online test results before me?**
  - **Answer:** Some tests are staggered to give the recruitment team time to review the scores. Don't worry, the latest you'll hear about your results will be mid-February and you'll be given plenty of time to take the next parts of the assessment process.



# Benefits



- In the GES, we take your **career and development** seriously. You'll benefit from regular performance and development reviews with your line manager, as well as learning support from the University of Kent.
- Both the University of Kent and the Civil Service offer **wellbeing support**, as well as support for those with **disabilities**. The GES is an **inclusive** place to work, so don't let
- anything physical or mental hold you back from applying! We always encourage those in the GES to feel comfortable to come to work as themselves. We're a **social bunch** and you'll have the opportunity to be part of a **fun community**.
- Click [here](#) to read more on disability in the Civil Service.

1



An extra paid day off work for the king's birthday.

2



Competitive contributory pension scheme.

3



Occupational sick pay.

4



Generous paid maternity and paternity leave.

5



Interest-free loans to spread the cost of an annual travel season ticket or a new bicycle.

6



25 days annual leave, increasing to 30 days after 5 years of service. This is in addition to 8 public holidays.

7



Opportunity to use on-site facilities including fitness centres and staff canteens (where applicable).

8



Flexible working patterns and access to Flexible Working Schemes. Allowing you to vary the length of your working day, as long as you work your total monthly contracted hours.

# How to apply

## Registration

To begin your application, you'll need to apply on Civil Service Jobs.

## Online Tests

You may be required to complete three online tests: verbal, situational judgement and numerical tests. You will move from one test to the other only if you meet the minimum requirement at the completion of each stage. You will need access to a laptop/desktop computer.

## Personal Statement

If you have met the minimum requirements of the online tests, you will be invited to complete a personal statement of no more than 1000 words.

Your statement should include the following:

- Why you are interested in the apprenticeship;
- How you are planning to balance work and study;
- How you are planning to keep yourself motivated and keep track of your performance.

If you are successful at both the online tests and the personal statement sift, you will receive an outcome by February to March 2023 and will be invited to the assessment centre.

## Two-stage Assessment Centre

As part of the virtual assessment centre, we will evaluate your suitability for the job in two sections through a combination of tasks and activities. Initially, you will undertake a written exercise and following this you will be invited to complete a presentation and interview.

22

19 December 2022

Resources (click links below to access):

- [Civil Service test information](#)
- [Verbal practice test](#)
- [Judgement practice test](#)
- [Numerical practice test](#)

19 December 2022 to 14  
February 2024

March 2023 – April 2023

23

# Application tips

## Assessment Centre



Kaitlin - Apprentice Economist, 2020  
Cohort

Be yourself,  
smile. Make sure  
your personality  
shines through.

The assessment centre can seem very intimidating, especially if you have not done one before. Try not to worry, do your best and get the most out of it as it something you can learn from.

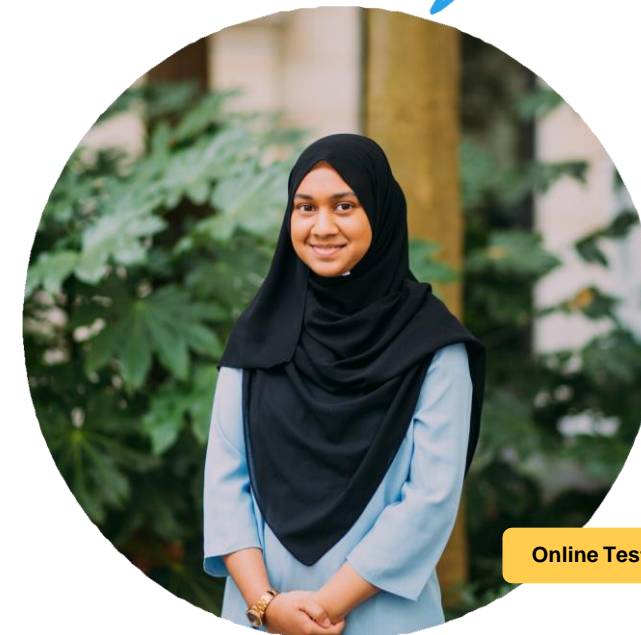
## Written Application



Georgia - Apprentice Economist, 2021  
Cohort

One piece of advice I would give to those who are thinking about applying is that I would recommend reading into what the Civil Service is, their values and what the degree entails. This will help you to stand out in the application process, as it shows you know what you are applying for and have an interest in it.

Make the most of the  
practice tests!



## Online Tests

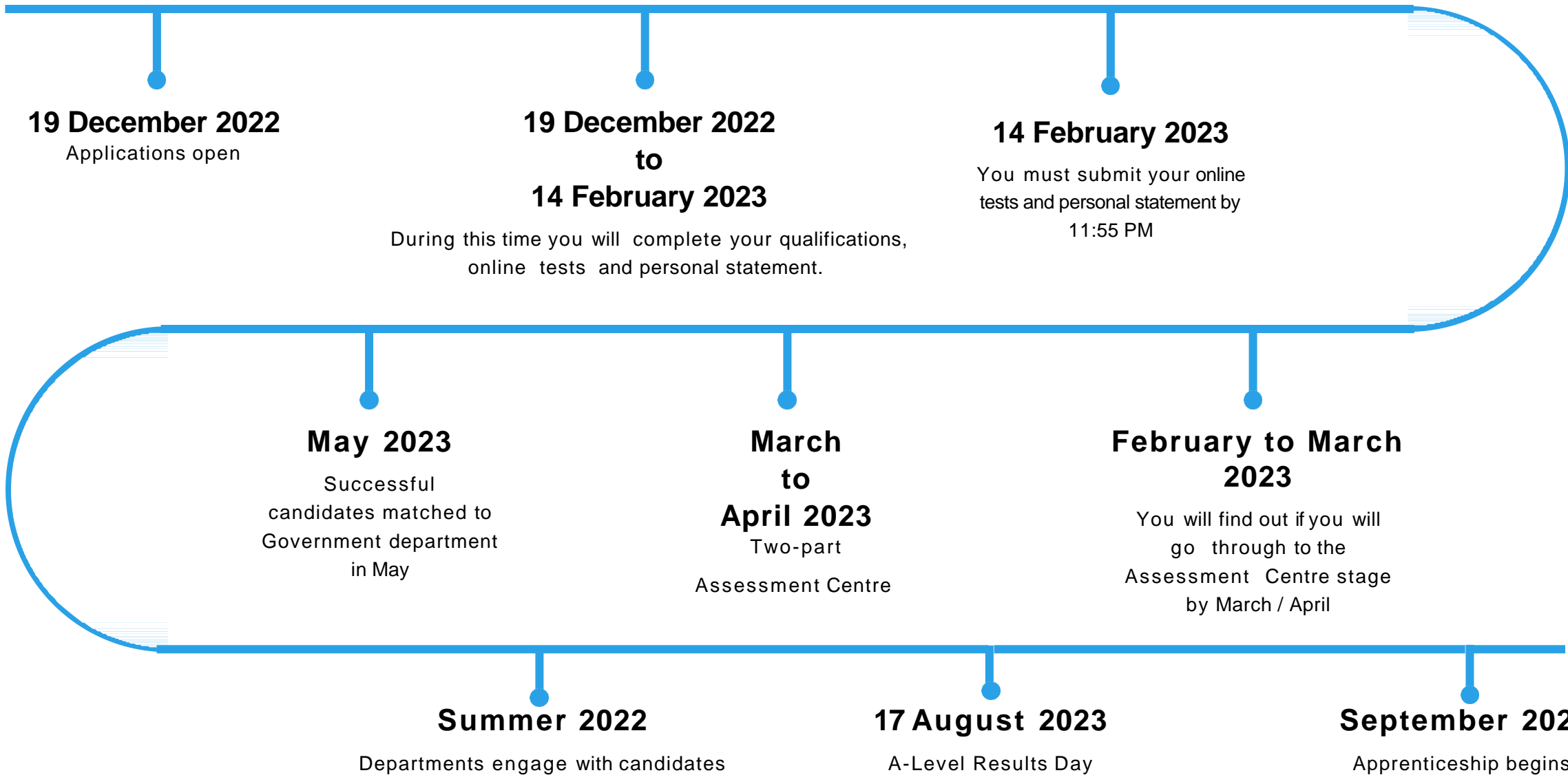
Mobena - Apprentice Economist, 2019 Cohort



In partnership with:



# Timeline



# Follow our social media channels for updates

(click the links/handles below to open pages)

- **Website:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/civil-service-government-economic-service>
- **Facebook:** [@GovEconService](#)
- **Instagram:** [@GES\\_UK](#)
- **Twitter:** [@GES\\_UK](#)
- **Linkedin:** [@governmenteconomicservice](#)
- **Youtube:** [@UK Government Economic Service](#)

# Got a question? Contact us!

(click the address below to start email)

- **Email:** [GESRRecruitment@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:GESRRecruitment@hmtreasury.gov.uk)