An engineering apprenticeship with John Deere is your stepping stone to a rewarding career.
YOUR CAREER WITH JOHN

There's never been a better time to consider an engineering apprenticeship with John Deere. As the agricultural and turf machinery business becomes more technologically advanced, utilising satellite navigation systems, Formula 1 transmission technology, computerised controls and advanced, fuel-efficient engines, the need for skilled people working in the industry becomes ever greater. It’s not just about the machines either. Sophisticated parts and service systems require the same skills too. The John Deere dealer of tomorrow is a challenging business, with a wide range of opportunities and exciting prospects for the right people. Whatever your interest, there is a role for you.

What is an engineering apprenticeship?

Like all apprenticeships, the John Deere service technician and parts support schemes combine training with paid employment, leading to nationally recognised and valued qualifications. Apprentices work at a John Deere dealership but also spend eight weeks each year at Babcock International Group’s Ruddington Training Academy and at John Deere’s headquarters, both near Nottingham. You are supported by a designated learning adviser and by the employing dealer, gaining valuable workplace skills by undertaking practical tasks and experiencing real-life challenges. Every apprentice is provided with an individually tailored learning plan, with progress monitored by the learning adviser who makes regular visits to the dealer for on-the-job assessment and guidance. John Deere offers three different apprenticeship programmes, leading to different career paths. You can choose Ag Tech, Turf Tech or Parts Tech.

Ag Tech

With the emphasis firmly on farm machinery, you will develop skills and proficiency in a wide range of technical areas, from routine maintenance and servicing through to complex component overhauls utilising the very latest John Deere diagnostic equipment.

Turf Tech

This turf engineering apprenticeship develops exactly the same skills as its agricultural equivalent, but with the focus more on machines used by golf courses, sports grounds, local authorities, landscapers and country estates.

Parts Tech

As a company John Deere is renowned not just for its machinery, but also for its outstanding parts and service support. This apprenticeship concentrates on how to manage John Deere’s sophisticated parts systems, run a profitable retail environment, merchandise goods effectively, and understand the value of John Deere products and the importance of selling on quality rather than on price.

How long does it last?

The apprenticeship programmes last for two to four years, depending on the course you choose. Most of your time is spent employed at a John Deere dealership where you learn on the job, but with the added benefit of some classroom and workshop tuition at the Training Academy.
What qualifications do I need to apply?
There are no minimum education requirements, although you should be aged 16 -19, with a willingness to learn and an interest in working at a John Deere dealership.

What qualifications will I get?
City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma in Work-Based Landbased Engineering Operations, progressing to Level 3 for Ag Tech and Turf Tech engineering apprentices; NVQ Level 2 in Parts Operations progressing to Level 3 for Parts Tech apprentices. Ag Tech and Turf Tech apprentices can go on to complete their education for a fourth year to gain the John Deere Diploma and register at LTA Level 2 in the industry’s Landbased Technician Accreditation scheme, while starting their adult training within the John Deere University.

What does it cost?
There are no tuition fees. The employing dealer pays the apprentice’s wages and covers the tuition and accommodation costs for the residential training.

How do I get a job at a John Deere dealership?
Most candidates will already have a job in a John Deere dealership when they apply for an apprenticeship but, if that’s not the case for you, we can help you find one when you apply.

Why choose a John Deere apprenticeship?
John Deere’s Ag Tech training scheme was introduced in 1992, making it the longest running programme of its kind in the UK. In 1997 the scheme won a National Training Award, the only one ever made to an agricultural machinery training programme. More than 500 apprentices have graduated through all three John Deere schemes – Ag Tech, Turf Tech and Parts Tech. In addition, 13 Ag Tech graduates have received a national City & Guilds Medal for Excellence award, a unique achievement in the engineering sector.

How do I find out more?
Visit the training section on the John Deere website at www.JohnDeere.co.uk, send an email to jd.recruitment@babcock.co.uk or call us on 0870 013 0325.

How do I apply?
You can complete an application form online. Go to www.babcocktraining.co.uk/info/landbased
Alternatively you can apply via www.JohnDeere.co.uk and click on the OUR COMPANY tab, then CAREERS and STUDENTS & APPRENTICESHIPS.
Apprenticeship course details

Engineering is a practical subject. It’s about making things work and fixing things that don’t. You will learn to use the very latest John Deere equipment, working at the cutting edge of technology to gain the important skills required in a fast developing, high-tech industry. John Deere dealer service technicians are trained in engineering, electronics, hydraulics, diagnostics, communication skills, computing, sales and marketing.

Ag Tech agricultural engineering apprenticeship

The training programme includes:

- 8 weeks of training each year for 3 years at the Academy in Ruddington, Nottinghamshire;
- City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma, progressing to Level 3 in Engineering Operations (Agriculture);
- Functional Skills Levels 1 and 2 in Maths, English and IT;
- Landbased Technician Accreditation Level 2 (achieved at the end of the fourth year of employment as the result of attending three additional free training courses at John Deere Limited’s headquarters in Langar, Nottingham).

You can extend your skills with additional training in areas such as compressed gas handling, welding and abrasive wheels. After the fourth year, you can go on to achieve LTA Level 3 (Advanced Technician) and LTA Level 4 (Master Technician) qualifications.

Turf Tech turf engineering apprenticeship

The training programme includes:

- 8 weeks of training each year for 3 years at the Academy in Ruddington, Nottinghamshire;
- City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma, progressing to Level 3;
- Functional Skills Levels 1 and 2 in Maths, English and IT;
- Landbased Technician Accreditation Level 2 (achieved at the end of the fourth year of employment as the result of attending three additional free training courses at John Deere Limited’s headquarters in Langar, Nottingham).

You can extend your skills with additional training in areas such as compressed gas handling, welding and abrasive wheels. After the fourth year, you can go on to achieve LTA Level 3 (Advanced Technician) and LTA Level 4 (Master Technician) qualifications.

Parts Tech apprenticeship

In contrast to the Ag Tech and Turf Tech courses, the John Deere Parts Tech apprenticeship programme is delivered mainly in the workplace, ie at the John Deere dealership where the apprentice is employed. Workplace training is supplemented with one week a year at the Academy in Ruddington, Nottinghamshire.

The training programme includes:

- NVQ Level 2 in Parts Operations, progressing to Level 3;
- Functional Skills Levels 1 and 2 Certificated;
- Parts Adviser Accreditation (ATA - Automotive Technician Accreditation);
- One week of specific John Deere product training each year for 2 years at the Academy in Ruddington, Nottinghamshire.

The industry’s Landbased Technician Accreditation (LTA) scheme, administered by the Institution of Agricultural Engineers (I AgrE), is designed to raise standards within the workforce, and to recognise an individual’s ability, skills and experience. Apprentices starting the John Deere engineering apprenticeship programme are automatically registered at Level 1. Successful John Deere Diploma graduates qualify for Level 2 accreditation, with the chance to progress in time to LTA Level 4 (Master Technician). For further details of the LTA scheme, visit www.iagretech.org
Since it was founded in the US in the first half of the 19th century, John Deere the company has grown to become the world’s largest manufacturer of agricultural and forestry equipment, with the broadest range of domestic and professional turf equipment. Its worldwide operations also include construction equipment, power systems and finance.

John Deere the man set up a small blacksmith shop in 1837 in Grand Detour, Illinois, where he invented a revolutionary self-scouring steel plough that transformed agriculture in the tough prairie soil of the US Midwest. A decade later he moved his business to Moline, where the company that bears his name still has its worldwide headquarters today.

From this one-man enterprise, John Deere today has more than 60,000 employees worldwide, with 64 factories in 18 countries, including tractor manufacturing in seven countries on four continents, and a marketing presence in more than 140 countries. The company also invests nearly $5 million dollars every working day in its worldwide research and development programmes.

From the day he started, blacksmith John Deere was determined to build his business on integrity, quality, commitment and innovation. These core values still determine the way we work today.

Babcock and John Deere – working together to deliver training

Babcock International Group’s Training & Education business is one of the largest in the UK. It has been delivering John Deere’s award-winning Ag Tech, Turf Tech and Parts Tech apprenticeship training programmes since September 2010, when they became the first land-based machinery programmes with training delivered in the workplace.

A Babcock learning adviser visits each apprentice in their workplace every 10 weeks to assess what they’ve learned and to give extra guidance and support. This means regular one-to-one training for apprentices and the businesses they work for. Through this process the apprentices work towards the latest City & Guilds Land-Based Diploma.

Additional training takes place at Babcock’s purpose-built training facility at the Ruddington Training Academy near Nottingham, not far from the John Deere Training Centre at the company’s UK headquarters in Langar. At Ruddington, apprentices use up to date, state of the art equipment and gain further knowledge from experts in support of their work-based learning.

Babcock’s training programme for John Deere is designed specifically for the company, utilising John Deere’s core subjects within the standard apprenticeship framework in order to give both a landbased and an Institution of Agricultural Engineers (I AgrE) LTA Level 2 qualification within one learning programme. This leads straight into the John Deere adult training programme at the John Deere University (JDU). Babcock’s John Deere learners can go on to complete three free adult courses in their fourth year to gain the John Deere Diploma and start their adult training in JDU.

Parents/guardians/careers advisers – this section is for you

We hope that young people embarking on an apprenticeship will be enthusiastic about learning and working, and keen to apply themselves to their chosen career. You want that too, but you also need to know that we take good care of them.

With over two decades of training successfully delivered, the John Deere apprenticeship programme is widely acclaimed for its excellent track record in producing successful graduates. The programme is administered and delivered by Babcock, the largest training provider in the UK, with more than 130 years of experience within the engineering sector.

All new apprentices and their parents or guardians are invited to a special induction day, which includes tours of John Deere Limited’s headquarters at Langar near Nottingham and the training Academy in nearby Ruddington, as well as a visit to the hotel where the apprentices stay during their residential training weeks.

During the residential weeks, Babcock’s training staff are responsible for the apprentices’ welfare. We use a hotel that is experienced in supporting young people away from home, and equipped to meet their needs (including a chill-out room complete with games console). The residential weeks also include a programme of team-building trips, so there are opportunities for fun and relaxation as well as study.

See overleaf for contact details.
For more information about John Deere, visit www.JohnDeere.co.uk

If you have any questions about the John Deere Ag Tech, Turf Tech and Parts Tech engineering apprenticeships, or wish to apply for a place as a John Deere apprentice, please contact us:

Email   jd.recruitment@babcock.co.uk
Phone   0870 013 0325
Website www.babcocktraining.co.uk/info/landbased