

# If at first you don't succeed, try, try again

Apprenticeships are real jobs and therefore individuals will need to participate in a competitive application, recruitment and selection process. For some employers this could be a fairly short process of an application and interview, but for other positions this could mean months of working through multiple application stages and activities. It is likely that you will need to apply for a few vacancies before you are successful in securing the perfect apprenticeship for you.

Below are a few recommendations of how to keep yourself on track to securing an apprenticeship that you will be happy in.



## 1. REMAIN POSITIVE

Positivity is key when searching for an apprenticeship, especially after facing setbacks. It is important to understand that these are competitive places and in no way have you failed by not getting the first apprenticeship that you apply for. It can be helpful to reflect on what went well and anything you might change for future applications.



## 2. STAY ENGAGED

After facing rejection, it can be difficult to remain enthusiastic and excited about opportunities. Try and stay engaged with the application process by continuing to search for vacancies. You can receive alerts for new vacancies direct to your phone, by registering on Find an apprenticeship:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>



## 3. SEEK ASSISTANCE WITH THE APPLICATION PROCESS

A second pair of eyes is always helpful when checking through an application. This can be a useful way of spotting any grammatical or spelling errors, as well as making sure you have answered the questions appropriately. A teacher or careers leader at your school or college is a good place to get some constructive feedback on an application.



## 4. PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

If there is an element of the application and recruitment process that you are anxious about, try and take some time to practice this with a parent, teacher or friend. For example, they could ask you mock interview questions or help you to practice a presentation. The people around you will want to support you, so don't be nervous asking for their help



## 5. CHECK OUT VACANCY SNAPSHOT

Vacancy Snapshot features virtual profiles for some of the UK's top employers. They have listed top tips for their application processes and give a unique insight into what they are looking for. Even if you are applying to a smaller employer, these profiles may give you some inspiration on how to approach the application process and which of your personal qualities they may wish you to focus on in their written applications. <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies>