



TO ALL SNIFE TRAINING SERVICES EMPLOYERS

Dear Employer

RECRUITMENT OF PLUMBING APPRENTICES 2009-2010

We are again at the beginning of a new Training year and a new College year is not far away.

Despite the current difficult economic circumstances we are hopeful that many employers will consider recruiting a plumbing apprentice for the training year 2009-2010. We have secured a contract from Skills Development Scotland (SDS) the successor body to Scottish Enterprise (SE) and Highlands and Islands Enterprise (H&IE) for the coming year. It is important for the future skills base of the industry that employers continue to recruit through difficult trading times to ensure sufficient skilled plumbers in future years and when the economic upturn takes effect.

The Plumbing SVQ is currently delivered across 23 Colleges/Training Centres in Scotland and we are anxious that this local college infrastructure is retained for the training of apprentices now and in future years and we are doing all we can to ensure that colleges are not put under pressure to give up plumbing resources in favour of other disciplines.

AIMS OF MODERN APPRENTICESHIP IN PLUMBING

The aims of the current Modern Apprenticeship Programme are to provide a broad based knowledge, skills and training in the plumbing and mechanical engineering services industry. SNIFE Training Services Ltd as managing agent oversees the training and draws down funding from SDS which meets the cost of the college based training and the employer receives a grant on the apprentice achieving the SVQ Level 3/MA and on submission of the SNIJIB Certificate of Completion of apprenticeship at the end of the fourth year. See attached sheet detailing grants available.

ECONOMIC DOWNTURN AND REDUNDANT APPRENTICES

As a result of the current economic downturn a number of employers have had no alternative but to make some apprentices redundant – always a last resort for employers. A number of apprentices are therefore looking for new employers in order to continue their apprenticeship and we would ask employers who are able to recruit this year to give first consideration to taking on a “redundant apprentice” in order that the apprentice can complete the remaining period of apprenticeship. Information on the numbers and location of apprentices can be obtained from your local SNIFE Regional Training Officer. An adoption of grant of £500 is available for the SNIFE Education and Training Trust.



ADOPT AN APPRENTICE SCHEME

The Scottish Government has announced a package of financial support for redundant apprentices to enable them to complete their training via an **“Adopt and Apprentice Scheme”**. Employers who are willing to take on a redundant apprentice are eligible to receive a one-off grant of £2,000 to assist with wage costs. The employer is required to “give an undertaking to employ the apprentice for the duration of the remaining period of apprenticeship”. In the event that an employer is subsequently forced to make a recruited “redundant” apprentice redundant then the employer is required to repay the full £2,000 grant to SDS.

ELIGIBLE APPRENTICES:

- All Modern apprentices made redundant since 1 April 2008.
- There are no age restrictions.
- Proof of redundancy must be supplied by the apprentice e.g. P45 or official letter of redundancy.
- Evidence of the circumstances which brought about the redundancy must be provided to SNIFE Training Services Ltd.
- An application form for grant (available from SNIFE) is required to be completed and submitted to SNIFE Training Services Ltd for onward transmission to SDS who will respond within 14 days of receipt of a completed application form.
- Payment of the £2,000 grant will be made as soon as possible thereafter.

If you are able to recruit either a redundant apprentice or normal school leaver please contact your local Regional Training Officer who can arrange to have the necessary paperwork sent to you and to assist you through the process.

Contact details for our team of Regional Training Officers are detailed below and information on the “Adopt an Apprentice Scheme” including the application form which should be completed with the assistance of our Regional Training Officer can be viewed at www.becomeaplumber.org

SNIPEF

TRAINING SERVICES

SNIPEF Training Services Limited
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 Tel: 0131 225 2255 • F: 0131 226 7638
 Email: info@snipef.org
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SNIPEF REGIONAL TRAINING OFFICERS

<p>ROBERT BARCLAY 31 Morar Crescent Bishopton PA7 5DZ Mobile: 07795 174770 AREAS COVERED Scottish Borders, Dunbartonshire and Forth Valley</p>	<p>COLIN MILLER 28 Redwood Court Milton of Leys Inverness IV2 6HD Mobile: 07801 741349 AREA COVERED Inverness, Ross & Cromarty, Lochaber, Western Isles, Argyll and Skye and Lochalsh</p>	<p>NEIL FOXCROFT 5 Culduthel Mains Circle Inverness IV2 6RH Mobile: 07795 314271 AREAS COVERED Caithness, Orkney, Shetland, Badenoch & Strathspey, Perthshire and Moray</p>
<p>JOHN GILLIES 20 Clamps Terrace St Leonards East Kilbride G74 2HA Mobile: 07801 741347 AREAS COVERED Glasgow City</p>	<p>ROSS DEWAR 44 Pentland Terrace Edinburgh EH10 6HD Mobile: 07801 741346 AREAS COVERED Edinburgh & Lothian</p>	<p>PAUL ROBERTS 21 Church Street Brechin DD9 6HB Mobile: 07801 741348 AREAS COVERED Aberdeen, Angus & Kincardine, Dundee and Grampian</p>
<p>DOUGLAS SHEARER Woodside Cottage 21 Skelmorlie Castle Road Skelmorlie PA17 5AH Mobile: 07801 741344 AREAS COVERED Ayr, Dumfries & Galloway, Renfrew, Kilmarnock, Greenock, Dunoon & Rothesay</p>	<p>BRUCE THOMSON 100 Echline Drive South Queensferry EH30 9XG Mobile: 07713 987894 AREAS COVERED Lanarkshire and Fife</p>	

If you require any further information please contact your Regional Training Officer in the first instance or if necessary the SNIPEF Training Department on 0131 226 8595.