

Latest news:

- \* **Employers can access £2500 Apprenticeship Grants for taking on 16/17 year olds (p.2)**
- \* National Apprenticeship Week: 1st - 5th February (p.2)

**Spring 2010**

## What can Connexions offer you?

**CNX2JOBS.COM**

### A FREE recruitment service:

If you are thinking of recruiting a young person aged 16-19, we can..

- Advertise your vacancy in our local Connexions centres, schools and colleges.
- Advertise your vacancy on [www.cnx2jobs.com](http://www.cnx2jobs.com)
- Offer advice on different ways to recruit and train your young employee
- Update you about changes to qualifications and education initiatives
- Provide information about Apprenticeships and training providers in your industry.

This interactive job search website advertises job, training and voluntary opportunities to 16-19 year olds across Greater Manchester.

To employers working with Connexions, it is FREE of charge!



Cnx2jobs.com attracts over 20,000

visitors per month and provides young people with 24/7 access to your vacancies whether they are in school, college, at home or using a local Connexions centre.

The site features over 500 vacancies ranging from office work and telecommunication jobs, to hairdressing and mechanics apprenticeships to opportunities in music production and community work.

### Do you want to advertise your vacancy on Cnx2jobs?

Fill in a vacancy form on the 'Employer' section of the website [www.cnx2jobs.com](http://www.cnx2jobs.com) or call 0161 245 4981 to speak to one of the team.

### What do other businesses say?

"Connexions embraced this new opportunity so swiftly and we really couldn't have found all those talented young people without all their hard work...We have been delighted with the volume and quality of the response."

Fiona Wright, Recruitment Account Manager, BBC North

*Connexions have worked with the BBC since 2007 to find young people with the right skills and abilities to undertake the Media Production Apprenticeship – the partnership continues with 36 trainees starting the scheme in September 2009.*



## National Apprenticeship Week: Monday 1st - Friday 5th February 2010

Over 130,000 employers offer Apprenticeship frameworks, and over 80% of those who employ apprentices agree they make the workplace more productive. National Apprenticeship Week will involve a range of activities exploring the roles of Apprentices and the benefits of upskilling your workforce and boosting business growth with government funded training:

### Monday: 'Competitive advantage'

To highlight research showing that businesses who invested in skills at the bottom of the recession are now benefiting on the bottom line.

### Tuesday: 'Benefiting directly'

Business leaders go 'back to the floor' to experience a day in the life of an apprentice in their sector.

### Wednesday: 'Ambition'

Apprentices from across the country will go to London to shadow key business and political figures.

### Thursday: 'Apprenticeships driving business'

To showcase the diverse range of 21st Century Apprenticeships, national and regional journalists will spend a day in the life of an apprentice.

### Friday: 'Community A Team'

To highlight the community benefits of Apprenticeships, employers and apprentices will take part in 'makeover challenges' throughout the course of the week.

If you want to get involved in National Apprenticeship Week call us on 0161 245 4981  
Or to find out about how an apprentice can benefit your business visit the  
National Apprenticeship Service website:  
[www.apprenticeships.org.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk)

## **Apprenticeship Grants of £2500**

This is a new wage subsidy to assist you in recruiting 16/17 year old Apprentices.

### **What?**

- £2500 grants available to all employers (except large public sector)
- Around 750 grants available in the North West (5000 nationally)
- Available now if you can offer a job opportunity to an unemployed 16/17 year old (new starts only)

### **When?**

- This is available until the end of March 2010

### **How?**

If you are interested in applying contact the Cnx2jobs Team for more info:  
[cnx2jobsteam@careers-solutions.co.uk](mailto:cnx2jobsteam@careers-solutions.co.uk)  
Tel: 0161 245 4981



Now is a great time to start thinking about recruiting a young person!

In June 2010, over 19,000 school and college leavers in our area will be entering the world of work and training. They have already started their search for jobs and Apprenticeships - now is the time to let them know about opportunities with your company!

Providing us with information on your recruitment for this year will enable us to advertise your vacancies in over 150 schools and colleges and in Connexions Centres throughout our company area. Contact us to find out more about advertising to Summer Leavers and how to link in with school events:  
[cnx2jobsteam@careers-solutions.co.uk](mailto:cnx2jobsteam@careers-solutions.co.uk)  
Tel: 0161 245 4981

## **The Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce can offer a range of services to support your business.**

Benefits of Chamber membership include:

- \* Networking Opportunities
  - \* Free legal expenses insurance
  - \* Free legal advice line
  - \* Business Information & development
  - \* International trade services
  - \* Skills and training
  - \* Raised profile
  - \* Discounts and offers for members
- And much more...

To find out about becoming a member of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce contact the Cnx2jobs Team on 0161 245 4981, or visit

**[www.gmchamber.co.uk](http://www.gmchamber.co.uk)**

### **Useful links**

The following websites will provide more information about recruiting young people:

[www.cnx2.co.uk](http://www.cnx2.co.uk) - The gateway to your local Connexions websites and our 'Employer Information' pages.

[www.acas.org.uk](http://www.acas.org.uk) - Includes information about contracts, working hours and equality in the workplace.

[www.apprenticeships.org.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk) - The National Apprenticeship Service, with advice and support for employers thinking of recruiting an Apprentice.

[www.berr.gov.uk](http://www.berr.gov.uk) - The UK Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) includes details of wage rates and cross-sector business developments.

### **Frequently asked questions:**

#### **What is the National Minimum Wage for young people?**

Aged 16/17 = £3.57 per hour

Aged 18-21 = £4.83 per hour

Aged 22+ = £5.80 per hour

#### **Is this the same for Apprentices?**

No, apprentices under the age of 19 (or over 19 in the first 12 months of training) are eligible for an apprenticeship rate of pay, currently around £95 per week. See links below for details.

#### **Where can I find out about attending school and college careers fairs?**

The Cnx2jobs Team can keep you up to date, and invite you to local Careers, Training or Labour Market Information events.

#### **When can a school leaver start work?**

The last Friday in June is the official school leaving date: 25th June 2010

#### **Where can I find details of training providers in my sector?**

For information about training provision in your sector, or about any other information contained in this newsletter, Please contact

**The Cnx2jobs Team,**

[cnx2jobsteam@careers-solutions.co.uk](mailto:cnx2jobsteam@careers-solutions.co.uk)

**Tel: 0161 245 4981**

**[www.cnx2jobs.com](http://www.cnx2jobs.com)**