

<http://apprent.eucen.eu>

Issue 4

October 2019



Refining HE Apprenticeships
with Enterprises in Europe

Welcome to the final **ApprEnt** project Newsletter!

ApprEnt successfully completed

ApprEnt started 15 October 2017 and finished on 15 October 2019. During these two years, the project has worked on generating collaboration opportunities between university and business, enhancing partnerships that involve companies, higher education institutions as vocational education and training providers, and other relevant stakeholders such as public authorities, representatives of learners and mentors and academic supervisors of students, etc. The ultimate aim of the project has been to promote the knowledge and establishment of work-based learning and especially apprenticeship schemes.

ApprEnt has produced a **set of tools to help organisations or institutions interested to develop apprenticeship schemes** or to collaborate with others who already have these schemes in place. The tools can assist users to reflect about their environment and improve these current programmes and processes. All these tools are now available with free access on <https://apprent.eucen.eu/tools/>

If you use the tools and find them useful, we would love to hear from you! Get in touch with us and tell us about your experience. If you are interested in using the tools and need some further guidance, do not hesitate to contact us, we will be happy to help you! Write to apprent@eucen.eu

FACTS AND FIGURES

Programme: ERASMUS+
Support for Policy Reform

Action: KA3 VET-Business
Partnership
Apprenticeships/Work-based
learning

Call: EACEA-40-2016

Starting date: 16 Oct 2017

Ending date: 15 Oct 2019

Guidelines for a Model Agreement

In the apprenticeship schemes, the relation between the higher education institutions (HEI), the enterprise hosting the apprentice and the apprentice him/herself is key and must be a respectful and



fruitful one. It is therefore fundamental that the three parties define well the objectives of the placement, the expected achievements and the general conditions defining the apprenticeship period. This preparatory setting up will make the apprenticeship period a better experience for the company, the apprentice and the HEI.

When discussing amongst the **ApprEnt** partners the possible scenarios for the design of a unique model agreement binding all parties in a common objective, it became clear that **designing one unique model was not possible because each country has different laws and cultural features, and each institution different rules.**

Thus, **the consortium decided to develop a guide** to help the reader to understand the importance of the different points that we suggest to be included in the model. The guide integrates points from existing model agreements into one only document. The users can decide what suits them and what does not, adapting it to their own ideal model, thus preserving national and institutional diversity.

We want to highlight that the mentioned Model Agreement is not the same as the formal working contract that, in most countries, will be also necessary. The mentioned Model Agreement sets up the conditions of the apprenticeship programme, its limits and expectations. The working contract,

*Interested in testing and applying the **ApprEnt** prototype course in your institution? Do you feel you need further support and information? Contact us! apprEnt@eucen.eu*

instead, regulates the relation between the apprentice as *employee* with the enterprise, following the labour laws and regulations of the work place according to national legislation.

The Guidelines for a Model Agreement are downloadable for free on <https://appr.ent.eucen.eu/tools/>

Advocacy Pack on Higher Education Apprenticeship

Higher Education Apprenticeships (HEAs) have been proved to offer solutions for the improvement of our society, while addressing the real needs of industry and preserving the academic requirements of higher education institutions. However, it is not always easy to communicate these benefits to those who have not experienced them and who do not know much about this area. The **ApprEnt** consortium reflected on how this obstacle could be overcome, what materials could be needed and how these could be used in every instance. Hence the format of the **ApprEnt** Advocacy pack, where users can select and use only those parts that are relevant to them and to their specific audience. The **ApprEnt** materials available are:



- ▲ Executive Summary
- ▲ Advocacy pack with 5 flash-cards highlighting the benefits of these programmes, with testimonies from real users:
 - ▲ Addressed to potential apprentices
 - ▲ Addressed to mentors
 - ▲ Addressed to HEIs
 - ▲ Addressed to enterprises
 - ▲ Addressed to policy makers
- ▲ Set of Policy Recommendations
- ▲ Guidelines to develop an Agreement Model
- ▲ Generic training course for mentors

ApprEnt engaged with several different target groups such as:

- ▼ Workers, managers, employers of SMEs
- ▼ Trainers within enterprises and VET institutions
- ▼ Teachers of VET
- ▼ Lecturers of HE
- ▼ Public bodies
- ▼ Learners

The **ApprEnt** Advocacy Pack has been thought for apprentices, enterprises, universities and policy makers to use for promoting and giving visibility to any HEA available in their communities or/and in Europe. The Pack also addresses **mentors** (both from HEIs and from enterprises) as they are often involved in the development of HEA curricula and know the challenges that apprentices face as well as the impact these programmes have on individuals, organisations and society at large. Mentors could therefore be excellent ambassadors of HEA and inspire their colleagues to engage in similar duties.

The Advocacy Pack is downloadable for free from the project website link <https://apprEnt.eucen.eu/tools/>

ApprEnt valorisation events

ApprEnt has organised **national valorisation events in each of the country partner to the project (FR, AT, EE, FI, PT, IT, ES)** to promote the outputs and tools developed and to engage the audience in their use. The events have been addressed to actors involved or interested in the development or implementation of apprenticeship and work-based learning schemes at higher education level, as well as those who work on the promotion of business-university cooperation.

The event in Barcelona, organised by **eucen** and the Fundació Bosch i Gimpera (UB) was held on **8 October 2019** with presentations from public authorities (Generalitat de Catalunya), university actors illustrating successful examples of

dual studies at HE level (Universities of Deusto and Lleida) and representatives from enterprises (PIMEC and Danone). The audience, comprising a mixed group of universities, trade unions, enterprises and students, who participated very actively in the discussion, demonstrating the relevance and momentousness of the topic. There was a lot of interest in the ApprEnt developed tools.



What next?

Now that **ApprEnt** has finished, **euken** continues working on the topic of work based learning and apprenticeship programmes. A new project is starting in January 2020 – **UniLab**. If you are interested to know more about it, send us an email and we will let you know what's all about. Write to apprEnt@euken.eu and enquire about our new project.



Contact us

Have you got any question about **ApprEnt**? Would you like to use the project tools? Do you need help? Send an email to apprEnt@euken.eu

Consortium

euken (BE)
 Université de Bretagne Occidentale (FR)
 Danube University of Krems (AT)
 Tallinn University (EE)
 University of Aveiro (PT)
 University of Turku (FI)
 University of Catania (IT)
 Universidad Complutense de Madrid (ES)
 Chambre Commerce Industrie Brest (FR)
 SENAT der Wirtschaft Österreich (AT)
 Estonian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (EE)
 Associação Industrial de Aveiro (PT)
 Federation of Finnish Enterprises, Southwest region (FI)
 Asociación de empresarios del Henares (ES)
 Fundació Bosch i Gimpera (ES)
