



Creating Tech Industry Gold Partnerships

An introduction for Higher Education



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A world of opportunity



The world is being transformed by the explosion in digital with:

- tech jobs now 10% of UK vacancies
- growth in UK tech employment second only to healthcare
- predictions of demand for millions of new tech professionals in the coming years.

**Education and training for tech careers
has never been more important.**





The key to success

Making the most of this expanding market opportunity requires a new level of collaboration between industry and academia. **Learners** need new skills to thrive in a constantly changing world. **Employers** need programmes they trust. **Higher Education Institutions** need to be able to invest with confidence.

How we can help

TechSkills brings together employers and educators in **Tech Industry Gold** partnerships, to develop the digital talent industry needs. Together, we create and promote industry-valued pathways into digital and tech careers, boosting uptake and enabling people from all walks of life to achieve their full potential.



The value of Tech Industry Gold partnerships

Value for educators lies in faster access to new market opportunity through industry collaboration, increased demand for programmes from students and employers, a track record of improved diversity, and compelling outcomes for learners.

Learners, equipped with industry-valued skills and a uniquely rich development experience, achieve outstanding results in terms of both employment and academic success.





Introducing Tech Industry Gold

The Tech Industry Gold community of employers and educators work together to share expertise, develop talent and build bridges from education into employment.

A common language is created through Tech Industry Gold accreditation. Employers collaborate to define industry standards which reflect the holistic skills needed for success in digital and tech careers. They support educators in creating or adapting programmes to meet them, and, through accreditation, provide industry validation of quality and relevance.

“The benefits of Tech Industry Gold accredited degrees are clear in both academic achievement and career advancement.”

*Colin Bannister
VP, Head of Presales, EMEA, VMware*

“Tech Industry Gold accreditation is the gateway to a strong, lasting and mutually beneficial partnership between students, alumni, employers and academics.”

*Dr Kevin Doyle
Associate Head of Department,
University of the West of England*





The Tech Industry Gold student experience

Learners on Tech Industry Gold programmes benefit significantly from the active ongoing support of employers. This includes:

- student/employer events
- achievement awards
- national competitions with employer judging panels
- employer workshops
- talks from industry experts
- networking with alumni, recruiters, entrepreneurs and executives.

The resulting skillsets are immensely valuable to the individuals – as demonstrated in the career success and salaries that alumni enjoy – and are portable across companies, sectors and geographies.

“Studying a Tech Industry Gold accredited degree is honestly amazing. It really helps with creating connections with employers, expanding my network, and using transferable employability skills.”

Stefan Dupey-Whyte, Tech Industry Gold graduate, Loughborough University





What sort of programmes can become Tech Industry Gold?

Tech Industry Gold accreditation applies to an increasingly wide range of programmes – full time degrees, degree apprenticeships, master’s programmes and shorter training courses.

The defining factor is that they provide trusted pathways for people from all backgrounds to succeed in digital and tech careers. Focused on real world application, programmes integrate a common core of the technical, business, project and professional skills employers most value.

All accredited programmes are featured on techskills.org, with case studies and links, promoted to our network of 4,000 employers interested in tech skills and education, and our database of 10,000 individuals.

“ We actively encourage applicants from Tech Industry Gold degrees, and always choose Tech Industry Gold accredited programmes for our apprentices, because of the guarantee of high quality and suitability.”

*Jenny Taylor, UK Graduate,
Apprenticeship & Student Programme Leader, IBM*

“ Tech Industry Gold degrees stand out because of the community of industry experts, employers and alumni that actively support them.”

*Dr Eranjan Padumadasa,
Deputy Dean for Education (Employer Led Education)
Queen Mary University of London*





Facts and figures

There are currently around 5,000 students on 55 accredited programmes in 38 Higher Education Institutions, studying courses leading to careers in fields such as software development, cyber security, network engineering, data science, business analysis, project management and IT consultancy.

For graduates of Tech Industry Gold degrees:

- Employment rates are higher than all subject areas except medicine/veterinary and education.
- Earnings are higher than all subject areas except medicine/veterinary and engineering.
- 84% gain a 1st or 2:1, compared to 70% for computer science overall.
- 31% are female, compared to 14% for computer science¹.

“The partnership with TechSkills and their employers has been instrumental to our degree apprentices’ achievements – 80% gained 1st class degrees, and when we look at salaries a year after graduation, they are outperforming the best graduates in the world.”

Dr Raheel Nawaz, Director of Digital Technology Solutions, Manchester Metropolitan University

¹ Source: Analysis of HESA statistics by Sagacity Research Ltd





TechSkills Employer Leadership



Tech Industry Gold Accredited Partners



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About TechSkills

TechSkills is the not-for-profit industry skills body for digital and tech, led by employers acting on behalf of the sector for the benefit of all. We are responsible for Tech Industry Gold and recognised as a Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) for the accreditation of degrees.

We are a wholly owned subsidiary of trade association techUK.