



Careers in the Civil Service





Introduction

Welcome! This brochure will introduce you to the work of the Government, the role of Civil Servants, the ways you can join the Civil Service and the benefits of a career with us.

The Government

What do you think the Government is?

Take a moment to reflect on this.

Answer

The Government are the people responsible for running the country. The political party that wins the most seats at a General Election takes charge of the Government usually for five years, until the next General Election. The leader of the winning party is appointed as Prime Minister and they choose other elected party members to work in the Government with them.



The Civil Service

What do you think the Civil Service is? Take a moment to reflect on this.

Answer

The Civil Service is an organisation of more than 400,000 Civil Servants that work for the elected government of the day, in a wide range of departments across the UK, and in some cases around the world, developing and carrying out its policies and day-to-day work.

Civil Servants are united by a strong sense of public service, and are responsible for upholding its values – integrity, honesty, impartiality and objectivity.

We come from all walks of life – we work in just about every town and city in Britain, and we come from every background. This is because we want the Civil Service to reflect the society it serves.



Here are a few examples of Civil Service departments:



The picture above is of the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) building, often seen in James Bond and other similar films. They are the UK's intelligence, security and cyber agency. Their mission is to help keep the country safe.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs are responsible for improving and protecting the environment and were key to supporting the delivery of COP26.



Department
for Culture
Media & Sport

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) works in a wide range of interesting areas from 5G Connectivity, making the UK the safest place in the world to be online for instance: implementing child protection systems, as well as recruiting for volunteers to support the opening and closing ceremonies of the upcoming Commonwealth Games or funding local sports initiatives to get more people active.



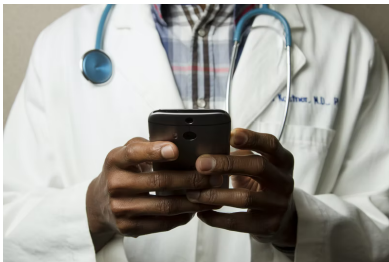
What a Civil Servant does for you

What do you think the Civil Service does for you? Take a moment to reflect on this.

Answer

There are Civil Servants in a large number of Civil Service departments that work on a wide range of topics, many of which impact you on a day-to-day basis. For example:

- The Department of Health & Social Care are responsible for policies on health, and looking after your local hospital, where you may well have been born;
- The Department for Transport works to provide public transport including your local buses/trams/trains that you are likely to have used regularly;
- The Department for Education is responsible for education and schools, including the school that you go to;
- The Home Office is responsible for issuing passports. You or family members may well own one yourselves;
- The Department for Work and Pensions are responsible for running job centre's which you might have seen in your local area.



Department
of Health &
Social Care

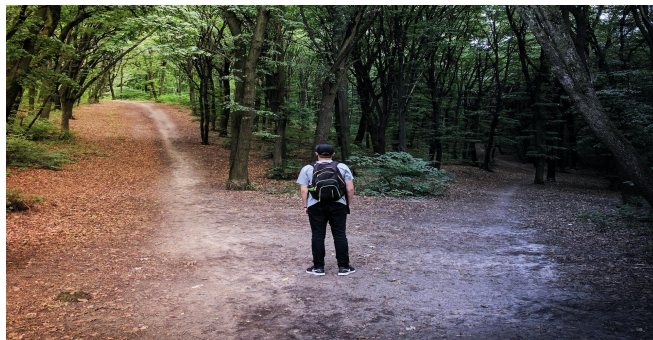


Department
for Education



Department
for Transport

Where will a career in the Civil Service take you?



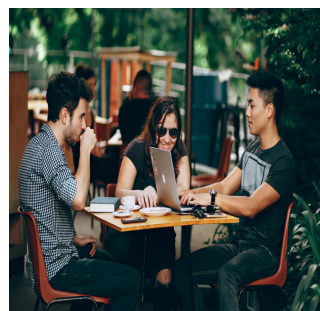
Watch [this video](#) to find out where a career in the Civil Service might take you.

Why join the Civil Service?

Some of the benefits of joining the Civil Service include:

- We pride ourselves in being a great place to work. If you join the Civil Service, you will become part of an ever evolving and progressive organisation;
- It is a rewarding experience where Civil Servants can see the impact of the projects that they are working on to improve the lives of people in the UK;
- The Civil Service is a modern and diverse workplace, and we are committed to promoting and ensuring equality and valuing diversity;
- We're becoming smarter, investing in digital technology to help Civil Servants do their jobs effectively and better serve the public;
- Joining the Civil Service will give you access to learning and development opportunities for a variety of career paths.

On becoming a Civil Servant, benefits include:



Earning a competitive salary, flexible working, the Civil Service Pension Scheme and career development and promotion opportunities.



Civil Service Professions

If you join the Civil Service you may also become part of a specific profession. Or, you might have a long and fulfilling career as a generalist working across many different areas.

There are professions ranging from:

- Counter Fraud;
- Digital, Data & Technology;
- Finance;
- International Trade and Negotiations;
- Legal;
- Operational delivery;
- Policy;
- Project management and delivery;
- Security.



Which profession would you be interested in? Take a moment to reflect on this.

Answer

Click [this](#) link to find out which three professions are most suited to you using our career matcher tool.

Entry routes into the Civil Service

There are a variety of entry routes into the Civil Service, including direct entry roles, Apprenticeships, and our flagship graduate scheme the Fast Stream.

Direct Entry

Working in the Civil Service is great for anyone who wishes to work in areas which make a real difference to UK society. We are always recruiting into direct entry opportunities and have a large number of wide ranging vacancies around the country available at any given time. These roles can vary from requiring no qualifications whatsoever to needing a university degree.

The Civil Service [jobs portal](#) allows you to sign up for job alerts tailored to your interests, skills and experience.

All Civil Servants have access to flexible working arrangements, as well as an employer contribution pension scheme. They earn a competitive starting salary which increases depending on role and level of qualification. In addition, Civil Servants receive support to guide their personal development and have access to e-learning, volunteering and job shadowing.



Civil Service Apprenticeships

In addition to the Civil Service benefits already mentioned, a Civil Service Apprenticeship also:

- Puts an individual in a paid position whilst allowing them to study for a professional accreditation. In other words, you are able to 'earn while you learn';
- Provides a mix of on the job and structured learning;
- Our Apprenticeship qualifications range from GCSEs or equivalent (level 2) to Master's degrees (level 7). Since 2015, the Civil Service has recruited over 40,000 apprentices and is one of the biggest recruiters of Apprentices in the UK.

Civil Service Apprenticeships are applicable for:

- Anyone with the right to work in the UK,
- of any age from 16 years+,
- from any background,
- across a range of qualifications.

You can apply for a Civil Service Apprenticeship using the Civil Service [jobs portal](#) and sign up for apprenticeships alerts. Apprenticeships are advertised regularly, as new opportunities become available at various stages throughout the year.

Watch this [video](#) to find out more about Civil Service Apprenticeships.





Civil Service Fast Stream

The [Civil Service Fast Stream](#) is an accelerated path into leadership for university graduates and existing Civil Servants. Fast Streamers work across the Civil Service, typically gaining experience of working in different government departments, as they are developed to become our future leaders. The programme offers unlimited career potential to reach the very highest levels of the organisation.

There are 15 different leadership and development schemes to choose from, and opportunities nationwide, therefore you'll find a scheme that's right for you – whatever your degree subject.

In addition to the benefits all Civil Servants receive, Fast Streamers have access to:

- Roles in just about every government department, and opens up a huge range of opportunities for you to explore;
- Professional qualifications on many schemes;
- Postings across the UK.



Watch [this](#) video to find out more about the Civil Service Fast Stream.

Useful Links

More information about Civil Service Careers can be found [here](#).

Thank you! We hope you found this brochure useful.