**What jobs are available in the UK for graduates? Video Transcript**

There are different types of jobs available for graduates in the UK. We can divide them into two groups. Jobs that are only offered to people who have been to university and jobs where a university degree is not essential.

Let’s look at jobs for graduates first. Again, we can divide these into two main types- graduate schemes and graduate jobs. Let’s compare them:

Graduate schemes are probably the best known – this is because they are found in large companies with globally-recognised names. These employers are usually based in large cities. They have big budgets and can advertise their schemes widely. They recruit large numbers of graduates every year. Sometimes they include rotations around different departments. They may include a qualification. Graduate schemes last for a fixed time- usually between 1 and 3 years. At the end of the scheme you may or may not receive a permanent job offer.

Although I have mentioned graduate schemes first, that is not because they are the best option. They are a good option for some students, but they are not everybody’s preferred option. In fact, only around 10% of graduates across the UK progress onto graduate schemes. Many students choose not to apply for graduate schemes at all. Schemes can be competitive because more students graduate each year than the number of places available. Because graduate schemes get a lot of applications for each job, the application is divided into lots of stages. Online tests followed by a written application followed by a video interview followed by an assessment day is common. The long process also means applications open early- almost a whole year in advance. Graduate schemes usually open in September and are closed by January, even though they don’t usually start until August or September.

The second type of job only for graduates is called a graduate job. These tend to be permanent jobs in small to medium companies. Small to medium sized companies actually make up around 99.9% of the businesses in the UK but they may not advertise as widely as large companies. They may only take on small numbers of graduates. Grad jobs will be in large cities, but also smaller towns or even countryside areas. Perhaps they only take on a graduate when they have a vacancy to fill, rather than at a fixed time each year. Graduate jobs tend to be available all year round and are less competitive. They often only require a CV and cover letter plus an interview. There are other advantages too- you might be more visible in a smaller company and have a more impactful role to play. Many graduate jobs can provide qualifications if you can put explain the benefits to your employer.

So, I’ve described graduate jobs and graduate schemes. The next type of job available is called an entry level job. The employer likes that you have been to university but will interview someone who doesn’t have a degree but has related experience instead.

If you have a few years professional experience already, you could apply for a “professional” position.

Both entry level jobs and professional hires are likely to be less competitive than graduate schemes and have a simpler application process.

If you are a master’s student, it’s worth mentioning that there is no significant separate jobs market for postgraduates in the UK. Most postgraduates will be applying for the same jobs as bachelor’s students. There are a few specific areas where master’s qualifications are asked for, but this is not the norm.

You don’t have to choose one type to apply for. You may apply for several of these types of jobs. Many students apply early for grad schemes and then apply for other roles later. You will need to be aware of the different application processes and timelines depending on which types you plan to apply for though. You may find the other sections on when and how to apply useful.