MK:U

Cranfield University

Chartered Manager Apprenticeship

Accelerated pathway

Application steps

Overview

Thank you for your interest in the Chartered Manager Degree Apprenticeship Accelerated April 2026 intake.

There are three steps to the application process for your apprenticeship.

1. **Academic application** – this assesses your academic ability to complete the programme.

2. **Initial assessment** – this confirms your eligibility for apprenticeship funding, including an assessment of your current occupational competency towards the apprenticeship Standard.

3. **CMDA accelerated entry checklist** – this is to confirm you meet the criteria for the accelerated entry route.

Note:

These steps may ask for similar information, however as they are for different purposes of assessment it is important you provide all information asked for during each step of the application process.

To meet the processing deadlines for the April 2026 intake the deadline to submit all 3 application elements is **Tuesday 24 March 2026**. Early application is encouraged.

1 Academic application

Deadline: Tuesday 24 March 2026

Complete here: Cranfield April 2026 Applications

Before you start your application, make sure you have scanned copies of your academic or professional qualifications and a copy of your CV to hand as we will ask you to upload these with your application form.

Once you have opened the application link, please click on the 'New User' button to create an account and follow the online instructions to complete your online application as soon as you can.

When you have finished your application form and uploaded your scanned documents, click 'Submit' at the end of the form. This will send your application directly to Admissions.

2 Initial assessment

Deadline: Tuesday 24 March 2026

Only complete this step once you have submitted your online application and have been provided with your student reference number – This is a 6 digit number with a prefix: SXXXXXX

Apprenticeships are designed to develop your Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours (KSBs) enabling you to progress within the workplace by training while you work.

As part of your application for your apprenticeship, we need to undertake an Initial Assessment to establish your eligibility for funding, your current working level; including any prior qualifications and experiential learning that maps to the relevant apprenticeship standard. Our Initial Assessment has been designed to meet the requirements of the Department for Education (DfE) apprenticeship funding rules.

Your Initial Assessment must show that you require significant new knowledge, skills and behaviours to be occupationally competent in your job role. An apprenticeship is for individuals who need to learn new Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours (KSBs), rather than those who are already occupationally competent in these areas.

Completion of this form will help Cranfield University assess your eligibility for apprenticeship funding and the appropriate content and duration of your apprenticeship.

This requirement is in addition to your academic course application. We will not be able to progress your application or finalise your offer until the Initial Assessment has been completed.

Complete here: Apprenticeship Initial Assessment Form

The KSB section of this form should be completed with your Line Manager / Mentor. A copy of your Apprenticeship Initial Assessment will be shared with your employer on submission.

3 CMDA accelerated entry checklist

Deadline: Tuesday 24 March 2026

As you are applying for the CMDA Accelerated Entry route, we must assess your previous experience to confirm you are eligible for an exemption of the Level 4 modules through Accredited Prior Learning.

Complete here: CMDA Accelerated Entry Checklist

A copy of your CMDA Accelerated Entry Checklist will be shared with your employer on submission.

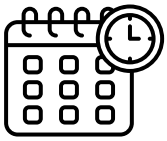
What happens next?

Once you have submitted your Academic Application, Initial Assessment and CMDA Accelerated Entry Checklist the next steps are:

Line manager support form
Your Line Manager will be contacted to complete their Line Manager Support Form to confirm the details within your Initial Assessment and CMDA Accelerated Entry Checklist and confirm their support for your Apprenticeship programme.

Maths and English Level 2 requirements
If you are aged 16-18 at the start of your apprenticeship programme or aged 19+ and your Line Manager opts you into the maths and English Level 2 requirements, we will be in touch to confirm the next steps regarding completing the maths and English BKSB Initial Assessments and providing the historical evidence to me these requirements.

Application assessment
Once the 3 application steps, Line Manager Support Form and maths & English BKSB Assessments (if applicable) have been completed, your application will be assessed by the Cranfield onboarding teams, across Admissions, Apprenticeships Office and the Academic Course Team for their review and assessment. Once this has been completed you will hear from our Admissions Office to confirm the final course offer decision. If there are any queries during your application assessment the teams will contact you via the email you have provided to request any further information that may be needed.



Course induction date

Thursday 30 April 2026

*Dates are subject to change, a full detailed timetable will be shared by the Academic Course Team once your course offer has been confirmed.

If you have any questions in regards to the above or wish to discuss anything further you can contact the Apprenticeship Office via apprenticeships@cranfield.ac.uk