

# The Danish exchange programme for apprentices

Through the OPU Programme, you can hire a well-educated and highly motivated Danish apprentice



## How can your company benefit?

The OPU programme gives you a great opportunity to recruit a bright and reliable young person who is eager to work and learn.

The apprentice can offer you specialised knowledge of the Danish market, culture and society.

All apprentices have completed the basic course of a VET programme before they go abroad and some already have work experience in their professional field. For those wanting to do an apprenticeship abroad, the stay is well integrated in their education, and part of their career plan.

### Profile of a Danish apprentice:

- Sound theoretical foundation
- Strong practical skills
- Good language proficiency – especially in English
- A good work ethic and understanding of team dynamics
- A high level of drive and determination
- A confident young person who is eager to work, learn and experience living in a different country

OPU is the Danish abbreviation for Oplæring i Udlandet, which means practical training abroad for apprentices.

The OPU Programme allows apprentices to work and undertake training in a company outside Denmark as part of their Danish vocational education and training (VET programme). Work placements can take place anywhere in the world.

The programme is funded by the Danish Employer's Reimbursement Fund (AUB).



## A Danish apprentice in your company

A work placement abroad can last from a few weeks to a year or more. During this period your company has the responsibility for providing work experience and training the apprentice to make sure that he/she will improve professional skills. This means that you have to give the apprentice relevant work tasks according to the learning objectives of his/her education.

You will make the practical arrangements and an employment contract together with the apprentice and his/her Danish vocational college.

## Conditions

**Learning objectives:** is specified in a checklist where you tick off the work tasks that you are able to give the apprentice

**Salary:** must be agreed upon in the employment contract

**Insurance:** the apprentice must be covered by your company's industrial injury insurance and employee liability insurance

**Accommodation:** the apprentice is responsible for finding his/her own accommodation and can obtain financial support from the Danish Employer's Reimbursement Fund (AUB) to help with the rent

**Working hours:** full time

**Holidays:** must be agreed upon

**School-based courses:** depending on the duration of the employment contract, the apprentice might have to attend school-based courses in Denmark during the work period at your company. Your company will not pay salary to the apprentice during the courses as this is funded by AUB

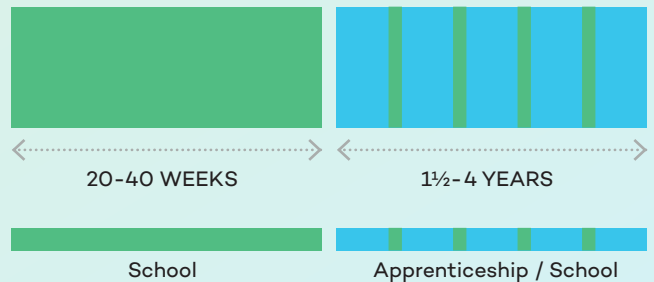
**Contact person:** it is a good idea to appoint a contact person in your company for the apprentice to communicate with prior to departure and upon arrival



## THE DANISH DUAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING SYSTEM

### Basic Course

### Main Course



Vocational education in Denmark is structured as a dual system. The apprentice spends part of the time at a vocational college and part of the time working in a company as an apprentice.

The dual system ensures a continuous connection between theory and practice. The duration of the school-based parts and the apprenticeship varies depending on the programme.



## Get in touch!

For more information contact:

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