

Gemma Gatherum, Fishery Officer

I have worked for Marine Scotland Compliance (MSC) for almost 6 years now, coming in straight after completing my 6th year at high school.

I started off as a Modern Apprentice (MAP) in the post of Fishery Assistant and while I was in my first year of the job, I studied for the Scottish Vocational Qualification (SVQ) Level 2 Business and Administration. Although it was busy, I found it very useful doing this qualification alongside my Fishery Assistant work because I was learning my new job, gaining a qualification and in full time employment all at the same time.

Once I finished my Modern Apprenticeship, I became a full time Fishery Assistant and also got the opportunity to take on the Fishery Officer role, on temporary promotion, due to a vacancy in the office I was working in. This meant I was given the opportunity to learn the job for two years before going through the full recruitment process to successfully secure the job. The last stage in the process was that



after more studying and learning, I earned my Warrant Card earlier this year, making me a fully qualified British Sea Fishery Officer (BSFO).

I found the Modern Apprenticeship program suited me really well. It was a great way to learn - and earn - and I always knew University wasn't for me. I am forever grateful that I was given the opportunity to do the Modern Apprenticeship program because if I had never had that, I would not be where I am in my career today.

Further Information

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