

# Civil Service opens their Fast Stream graduate programme today



There are over 100 jobs available in HMRC DFID and the Scottish Executive in the 2017 [Civil Service Fast Stream](#) which opens later today.

This is a scheme for final year students and recent graduates whatever their background.

The aim is to make the Civil Service more diverse and inclusive. Currently, only 4% of Fast Stream candidates come from a disadvantaged background compared with 24% of the overall graduate population.

The way that applications are dealt with will change the diversity of candidates on the scheme. Online tests have changed from verbal and numerical reasoning which has been proved to disadvantage those from a lower socio-economic background. The Civil Service believe that the situational judgement tests which will replace them will be a fairer way of working out how candidates would deal with real life situations.

Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Civil Service, Sir Jeremy Heywood, said: "The new Fast Stream application process is a demonstration of our commitment to attracting the most talented people to the Civil Service, no matter what their background. The Fast Stream offers unrivalled development opportunities to tackle and solve challenges that can improve the lives of millions across the country. It is a graduate scheme like no other."

*The Civil Service Fast Stream is open to final year students and graduates who have at least a 2:2 degree, or are predicted to get one. The starting salary ranged from £25,000 to £28,000 with many opportunities available including finance, digital and technology, business, communications, commercial and the diplomatic service.*