



INSTITUTE OF THE
MOTOR INDUSTRY

IMI SKILLS COMPETITION 2026

New talent powering automotive



worldskillsuk
excellence at work

1 PRE COMPETITION ACTIVITY Jan to March

- [Click here](#) for resources to get your apprentice ready for the IMI Skills Competition
- Sign up to the WorldSkills Learning Lab [here](#) for free extra support for your apprentices

2 NOMINATIONS 2nd – 27th March

1. Nominate your apprentice [here](#)
2. Ensure they accept the T&C's email to continue in the competition
3. Ensure they take the online quiz by 17th April which will be emailed to them

3 NATIONAL QUALIFIERS May

- The top 18 scorers from each category will be invited to a one-day practical qualifier
- Before they will be invited to a Teams call to meet the IMI team
- An information pack will be sent to you and your apprentice with handy hints and tips on the national qualifier

PLEASE NOTE:

- All accommodation and food costs will be covered.
- Visitors are encouraged to attend and support their apprentices.
- WSUK have a travel fund if required.
- We are committed to ensuring the IMI Skills Competition is inclusive and we offer a range of adaptations to meet everyone's individual needs.
- Our IMI staff and volunteer team of judges are from the sector and are there to support and encourage competitors throughout their journey through the competition.
- To enter you need to be studying a Level 3 Automotive qualification or have completed an Automotive Apprenticeship within the last 12 months.
- The competitor should have less than 4 years experience in the automotive industry.
- You will require a total of 7 days to take part in the full competition.

4 FINALISTS ANNOUNCED July

- In July the top 6 from each stream will be invited to the final competition in Wales where they will go head-to-head for a medal

5 EMPLOYER VISIT September

- 1-1 teams set up to talk through the competition's next steps and create a case study of the finalist and their employer to showcase your talent and training

6 MASTER CLASSES October

- Finalists will be invited to attend a one-day masterclass to train on the latest equipment they will use at the final and a chance to meet the IMI team

7 WORLD SKILLS UK FINAL November 16th – 20th

- After a familiarisation day there will be two days of practical tasks for the finalists
- The two-day final will then end with a medal ceremony at the ICC in Wales



8 SQUAD & TEAM UK November onwards

- Top, age-eligible scorers asked to join Squad UK and potentially compete at an international level as part of Team UK

CLICK HERE here to visit the IMI Skills Competition homepage