

**Job Title:** Professional sportsperson

**Occupational Sector:** Sport and leisure

**Required qualifications/entry route:**

Professional sports people are very talented and highly skilled sports men and women.

Whilst there are sporting qualifications, if you have the ability you can become a professional sports person by:

- an apprenticeship
- being spotted by a talent scout
- a sponsorship or scholarship scheme

You may be able to start by doing an advanced apprenticeship as a sporting excellence professional (AASE). Once you've completed your apprenticeship, you may turn professional or continue as an amateur while you get more experience and competition results.

**Skills needed:**

- Confident and good under pressure
- Competitive and perfectionist
- Accurate with a good eye for detail
- Driven and assertive
- Willingness to improve and train
- Equally able to be part of a team or work on own
- Talent and ability

**Salary scale:**

The range of salary will be very dependent upon your chosen sport. The higher salaries are normally linked to the sports which are on mainstream television.

Leading sports people attract sponsorship and advertising rights which provides equipment, clothing and other items such as nutritional supplements.

Others supplement their earnings by providing coaching or training sessions.

Many major sports people employ an agent who would take a percentage of their representatives earnings.

**Current demand for this job:**

Competition success and the desire for our sports teams to maintain international success means that sports people who are the highest level will always be in demand.

To attract the interest of scouts, teams or sporting associations generally happens as a result of competition success.

**Further information about working as a professional sports person:**

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/sports-professional>

<https://careers-in-sport.co.uk/news-articles/how-to-become-a-professional-sportsperson/>

<https://www.ucas.com/explore/subjects/sport>

**Other similar jobs to consider:**

- Sports coach
- PE teacher
- Sports centre assistant
- Nutritionist
- Sports scientist
- Physiotherapist
- Fitness instructor

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