2017 U.K. university graduates are willing to commit and ready to roll up their sleeves. In return these new graduates want an engaging experience that takes full advantage of their degree. Many graduate hires who finished university in 2015 or 2016 face a different reality.

The Accenture Strategy report *Gen Z Rising* examines the attitudes and expectations of graduates in the U.K., and how employers can improve their employee experience and become a destination for top talent.

### GETTING READY FOR THE WORKFORCE

**EXPECTATIONS**
- 83% said their education prepared them well
- 89% considered job availability before selecting a major
- 73% completed an apprenticeship or internship

**REALITY**
- 49% found it difficult or extremely difficult to find a job
- 54% accepted a lower salary or compromised on job benefits
- 81% saw their apprenticeship or internship lead to a job

### FINDING THAT FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION

**EXPECTATIONS**
- 93% expect to find a job in their field of study
- 98% need training to further their career
- 85% expect to earn more than £25,000 a year

**REALITY**
- 60% work full time in their chosen field
- 81% receive training from their first employer
- 70% earn more than £25,000 a year

Source: The Accenture Strategy 2017 University Graduate Employment Study surveyed 1,001 students in the U.K. who are graduating from university in 2017, and 1,001 students who graduated in 2015 or 2016, between the ages of 18 and 24, to compare the perceptions of students preparing to enter the job market with the experiences of recent graduates already in the workforce. Survey conducted in January/February, 2017.

To access the full report please visit [www.accenture.com/UK2017Grads](http://www.accenture.com/UK2017Grads)