

# Skills Advancement Grant

## Skills Advancement Grant:

1. The grant is only available to small enterprises (employment under 50 Full Time Equivalents and Turnover or Balance Sheet under €10M).
2. The enterprise must be involved in manufacture or an internationally tradable service and be classified “Pre-Start” or “Entry” or be an existing small Invest NI client.
3. Invest NI will support eligible external training and travel costs at 50% of cost (excluding VAT) up to a maximum of £10K grant in any one application.
4. Training courses already subsidised by the public sector will not be supported.

## Notes:

1. An enterprise may only have one ‘active’ Skills Advancement Grant (or Skills Growth Programme grant) at any point in time.
2. An enterprise can only receive one Skills Advancement Grant in any 12 month period.
3. Training which is mandated by law or which is compulsory for the particular sector (e.g. Health & Safety, Forklift Truck Driver Training) will not be supported.
4. All claims must be submitted by the legal entity to whom the Letter of Offer is issued and all relevant invoices and proof of payment must refer to the same legal entity. Failure to provide correct invoices and proof of payment will result in claims being returned unpaid.
5. Travel costs will not be reimbursed beyond standard/economy rates.
6. All eligible training activities must be undertaken and paid by the enterprise prior to the End Date of the Letter of Offer.
7. The earliest Start Date for any offer will be the date on which Invest NI acknowledges receipt of this application. Any costs incurred prior to this date will be deemed ineligible for support.
8. The Skills Advancement Grant will not normally support the same training for an enterprise for two consecutive applications.
9. Any enterprise seeking Skills Advancement Grant for 3 or more consecutive periods must demonstrate significant skills development to be considered for further support through the Scheme. Those enterprises that are considered ‘Pre-Entry’ can only avail of up to 3 small company offers of £10k.