

FUSION Financial Support Package

A comprehensive support package will be made available to each company to fund 50% of the graduate's employment costs. Financial assistance for eligible costs is claimed quarterly in arrears from InterTradeIreland.

A full breakdown of the package available is shown below:

Company	12 mths		18 mths	
	£ Stg	€ Euro	£ Stg	€ Euro
Grad. Employment Costs 50%	11,000	14,600	16,500	21,900
Grad. Training and Development	1,500	2,000	1,500	2,000
Expenses*	2,500	3,300	3,000	4,000
Total	15,000	19,900	21,000	27,900

* Project related Travel & Subsistence/Equipment.

Knowledge Centre	12 mths		18 mths	
	£ Stg	€ Euro	£ Stg	€ Euro
Joint Bid Completion	1,500	2,000	1,500	2,000
Academic support	12,500	16,600	18,750	24,900
Academic Travel & Subsistence	2,000	2,600	3,000	3,900
Total	16,000	21,200	23,250	30,800

Funding amounts as of March 2016 and may be subject to change.

The Key To Innovation Success

FUSION

Facilitates technology transfer and provides financial support for the specialist skills your business needs



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FUSION

Product development and innovation is at the heart of growth but often needs time, money and the right expertise. InterTradelreland's FUSION Programme can provide that support by helping to fund a high calibre science, engineering or technology graduate and partnering you with a third level institution with specific expertise.

The graduate is employed by you and is based in your company with mentoring from the academic partner and the InterTradelreland FUSION consultant.

You can choose an 18 month project (typically for new product or service development) or a 12 month project (typically for process improvement) depending on your business needs. Funding is available up to £44,250/€58,700 for 18 month projects and up to £31,000/€41,100 for 12 month projects.

On average each company taking part on the FUSION programme benefits from over £1 million worth of sales or efficiency savings in the three years following the project.

Am I eligible?

To qualify for financial support through our FUSION programme, your business must be:

- Located in Northern Ireland or Ireland
- Financially viable
- Able to demonstrate the need for InterTradelreland FUSION support
- Able to demonstrate the capacity and commitment to support a FUSION project at senior management level.

How it works

STEP 1: Initial assessment

Contact our team to discuss your particular business needs and find out how the programme could help you. If you are eligible for support, one of our consultants will arrange a meeting to understand your particular needs in more detail.

STEP 2: Business-Academic Partnership formed

We will work with you to discuss your specific innovation needs and identify potential university or college partners with the expertise that you require. Note: As this is an all-island programme, the third-level institution which you are partnered with must be based in the opposite jurisdiction to your business.

STEP 3: Complete a joint application

Together with your academic partner, you will submit a joint application for support. The application sets out the project plan, objectives, milestones and the support your company needs and the graduate skills/experience you require to help manage the project.

STEP 4: Approval

The application will be considered by InterTradelreland and if approved, you will be notified immediately.

STEP 5: Graduate recruitment

You will supply a job description for the graduate position and we will advertise the post on your behalf. Applications are initially shortlisted by InterTradelreland and then reviewed by you and your academic partner for interview and selection.

As part of the programme support package, the graduate will be funded by InterTradelreland to complete a Post-Graduate Diploma in Business and Management.

STEP 6: Project Implementation

The InterTradelreland consultant will assist in co-ordinating the project and overseeing its successful implementation.

Contact InterTradelreland FUSION on:

Tel: **028 3083 4189** (048 from Ireland), email: enquiries@fusionprogramme.com

or visit intertradeireland.com/fusion



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