

Driving Ireland's
competitiveness
through innovative learning



We are offering up to **€2 million** in funding for enterprise groups or industry bodies to establish new Skillnet Learning Networks across all sectors and regions nationwide. Skillnet Ireland is a business support agency whose purpose is to advance the competitiveness, productivity, and innovation of Irish businesses through enterprise-led workforce development.



70
LEARNING NETWORKS



18,000+
BUSINESSES UPSKILLING



70,000+
PEOPLE TRAINED

Setting up a Skillnet Learning Network

Skillnet Ireland wants to hear from groups of private sector enterprises or industry bodies that are interested in setting up new Skillnet Learning Networks.

Networks funded by Skillnet Ireland allow businesses, connected by sector or region, to access efficient, flexible and subsidised training and development for their staff.

Why apply to set up a Network?

SUPPORT

your business and other businesses in your sector or region to grow and stay competitive

BENEFIT

from a wide range of relevant and cost-effective subsidised training, delivered by expert trainers

CONTRIBUTE

to the development and growth of skills and job sustainability in your sector or region

Skillnet Ireland fosters an **enterprise-led approach to workforce development**. We operate under a joint investment model, funded by matching contributions from participating businesses in our learning networks. Applicants must demonstrate that the proposals are enterprise-led, have been designed to prioritise effective learning solutions and deliver value for money for all stakeholders.

The COVID-19 pandemic is having a profound global impact on economies, on workers and the ways in which businesses operate. Many businesses have to adjust their operating model and practices to maintain their competitiveness. Skillnet Ireland supports businesses to adapt and learn the new skills necessary to prepare for the recovery.

We are seeking applications to develop new Skillnet Learning Networks which address one or more of the following priorities within your sector or region:

- COVID-19 Business Recovery
- Digital Transformation
- Green Acceleration
- SME Productivity
- Workforce Development

Skillnet Ireland works with industry partners across all sectors and regions. Examples of Skillnet Learning Networks include:

- Animation Skillnet
- Aviation Skillnet
- County Tipperary Skillnet
- Construction Professionals Skillnet
- Design Skillnet
- First Polymer Skillnet
- Green Tech Skillnet
- Irish Medtech Skillnet
- Retail Ireland Skillnet
- Restaurant and Hospitality Skillnet
- Screen Skillnet
- Space Industry Skillnet
- Sligo Chamber Skillnet
- Sustainable Finance Skillnet
- Taste4Success Skillnet
- Technology Ireland ICT Skillnet

Skillnet Ireland is seeking applications

from interested business groups and industry bodies in specific sectors and regions which will complement the work already being carried out across its 70 Skillnet Networks nationwide.

New
Network

Sectoral Network

OR

Regional Network

Leading the way in enterprise-led skills development

Skillnet Ireland funds over 57 enterprise and employee representative bodies across a broad range of sectors supporting 70 Skillnet Networks. Working together, we drive excellence in learning and development for the workplace of today and the future.

Some of our industry partners include:



Who is eligible to set up a Skillnet Network?

APPLICANTS MUST:

- Be an **industry federation, industry body** or **other private sector enterprise group based in the Republic of Ireland**. Enterprises within the network can be of any size, including sole traders. (Public/voluntary sector entities are ineligible)
- Present a **strong business case** to Skillnet Ireland **on the challenges** (and opportunities) **within the relevant sector/region** and both the current and future skills required to address such needs.
- Outline how the proposal is **aligned to national policy** for the relevant sector or region.

How is a Skillnet Network structured?

- Subject to a successful application, Skillnet Ireland contracts with the organisation that manages the activities of the learning network. That entity receives the funds from Skillnet Ireland on behalf of the network group. Typically, these organisations include industry or sectoral representative bodies, Chambers of Commerce, employee representative groups and clusters of private businesses with similar training needs.
- Each learning network is called a Skillnet e.g. ISME Skillnet.
- Each Skillnet Network is **led by a voluntary Steering Group of industry representatives** that focus on setting the strategic direction of the learning network. This group **meets on a regular basis and makes decisions for the Network** on behalf of the wider group of businesses.
- Each Skillnet Network **appoints a Network Manager** who manages the delivery of the Network training and development plan on a day-to-day basis.
- Sectoral or regional networks are comprised of network businesses of any size.
- Trainees include both employees of businesses and those seeking employment that meet our eligibility criteria.

How can I learn more?

If your industry federation/body or private sector enterprise group is interested in establishing a new learning network, please contact us via:

T +353 (0)1 207 9630

W skillnetireland.ie/funding

E funding@skillnetireland.ie

Expertise. Support. Collaboration.

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An Roinn Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais,
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