



north west
regional college
Derry-Londonderry • Limavady • Strabane

INNOVATEUS

Let's
Do Business

Supporting Business

Funded Programmes

Innovateus

The INNOVATEUS support programme enables North West Regional College (NWRC) to deliver a unique 30 hour, tailored training solution to meet the identified skills needs of owners, managers and employees in SMEs, with 50 or fewer employees. It aims to provide staff with the skills to engage in new creative, innovation activities, and research and development (R&D) to improve, grow and develop the business. The up-skilling support is FREE.

Our experienced Lecturers and specialist Technical Consultants in most cases will be able to provide the up-skilling support on your premises at time that suits your business. Up-Skilling can include for example

- Provide you with the skills to develop a new product
- Help you to find and use new technologies
- Help you to make good use of Social Media Marketing to generate sales
- Use specialist software to meet the needs of your business
- Reduce your energy and waste

Success

We are already providing support to many businesses throughout the North West and the wider region that have taken advantage of the flexible Innovateus Employer Support scheme.

Creative & Digital Media: We up-skilled the owner of a local window-fitting business in the use of social media, resulting in increased sales.

Food, Drink & Tourism: We helped a local food company develop a new concept and recipe, adding value to their current product range:

“We were delighted, when as part of the InnovateUs Programme, the Technical Consultant from the NWRC was able to use his vast expertise to help us develop our skills in creating a range of new products. The feedback that we have received from customers has been fantastic. We have seen a 200% increase in the sales of our breaded products which in turn is helping secure jobs.” **Gallagher's Fresh Food Centre**

“The NWRC InnovateUs Programme reduced the skills gaps in my company, and I have definitely improved my skills and knowledge of Digital Marketing and have reached new markets through the technical support provided.” **Dr Maria McGee, Marble Hill Natural Skincare**



For further information please contact: NWRC Business Support Centre

☎ 028 7127 6170

✉ businesssupport@nwr.ac.uk

🌐 www.nwrc.ac.uk/bsc

Funded Programmes

Customised Training Programme

75% funded by Department for Employment and Learning (DEL)

Support is available for accredited training at Level 2 or above to up-skill and re-skill employees to enhance effectiveness in the workplace. A College Advisor will meet with the employer to learn more about the business and discuss the specific training needs required. Training can be provided on College premises or may be delivered on-site at a time and location that best suits the employee.

Innovation Voucher Scheme

Apply for a £4000 Business Innovation Voucher

Small or medium sized business wanting to get that extra edge, or struggling with an issue that needs expert help can apply for an 'Innovation Voucher' worth £4,000. Vouchers can be redeemed at the North West College Business Support Centre.

An Innovation Voucher lets you tap into specialist knowledge to develop forward-thinking solutions or ideas to expand, improve or create new products, services and processes that will help you compete more effectively.

Funded by Invest NI, Innovation Vouchers can be used to 'buy' expertise at the NWRC. Our expert Lecturers and specialist Technical Consultants offer specialist expertise, skills and industry experience and can deliver technical support based on your requirements

What can I use it for?

Innovation means doing things differently to make your business better. Areas covered by an Innovation Voucher include, among others:

- Improving and developing a new product, process or service
- Developing a new business model
- Testing products or services
- Accessing research and scientific expertise
- Efficiency audits and process change

Where there is an available solution on the market, then it is unlikely a voucher will be awarded.

Who can apply?

Small enterprises with fewer than 50 employees and an annual turnover or balance sheet total not exceeding €10 million.

Medium-sized enterprises with between 50 and 249 employees and an annual turnover not exceeding €50m or balance sheet total not exceeding €43m. Companies in this category must not have received assistance through Invest NI's R&D programme in the past five years.

Only companies registered in either Northern Ireland or Republic of Ireland can apply.



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