

Financing adult learning database

Name of the instrument - Local language	Skillnets
Name of the instrument - English translation	Skillnets
Scheme ID	110
Country	 Ireland
Reporting year	2020
Type of instrument	Grant for companies
Sub-type of instrument	Support for direct costs
Type of entry	Single instrument

Short description	Companies that are in one of the Skillnet Business Networks, providing subsidised training are eligible for this grant. Skillnets training networks programme (TNP) is funded from the National Training Fund. Eligible training covers a wide range of industry sectors and geographical regions, financial services training and management development. Up to 50% of all eligible costs can be subsidised. There is no limitation for re-use. No preferential treatment established.
Short description of the related instruments	Not applicable

Level of operation	Regional
	Sectoral
Name of a part of the country	Not applicable
Relevance	Key instrument
Legal basis	Section 473A, Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997(NB: Finance Act of 1995 provided for tax relief for tuition fees. All legislation relating to tuition fees that had been passed prior to 1997 was incorporated in the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997. Also, changes made to tuition tax relief after 1997 were retrospectively incorporated into the Act)
Objective(s) and	To increase participation in company training; to improve

target(s)	competitiveness and provide improved access for workers to industry-specific/transferable skills development.
Year of implementation	1999
Year of latest amendment	2018
Operation/management	Skillnets Ltd is governed by a board containing representatives of employer associations and trade unions as well as ministerial appointees. A budget is allocated from the National Training Fund.
Eligible group(s)	Industry-led networks, their members - private companies and their employees; unemployed people.
Group(s) with preferential treatment	No preferential treatment
Education and training eligible	Training across a wide range of industry sectors and geographical regions, financial services training and management development.
Source of financing and collection mechanism	Skillnets training networks programme (TNP) is funded from the National Training Fund.
Financing formula and allocation mechanisms	Under the current training networks programme (TNP) up to 50% of the cost of all eligible network activities is provided. Allocation: Companies meeting predefined criteria best are funded. For training programmes, the networks organise the costs, with some training programmes being provided to skillnet members free of cost and others at subsidised rates dependant on the allocation of the network.
Eligible costs	Fees and other costs related to education and training
Volumes of funding	Programme costs:2019: EUR 27 159 973 2018: EUR 19 455 9642017: EUR 16 194 373
Beneficiaries/take up	Beneficiaries (people trained): 2019: 70 270 2018: 56 182 2017: 49 194
Organisation responsible for monitoring/evaluation	Skillnets
Monitoring/evaluation reports available	Evaluation of Skillnet Ireland in 2018 https://www.skillnetireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Indecon-Evalu...
Most relevant webpage - in English	http://www.skillnets.ie/
Most relevant webpage - local language	http://www.skillnets.ie/
Recent changes	In 2018, Skillnet Ireland repositioned, becoming a rebranded agency (Skillnet Ireland), in order to provide greater clarity to businesses and greater focus to the areas of upskilling and lifelong learning.

	Recent changes in response to COVID-19
	No changes
Sources	http://www.skillnets.ie/
	http://www.skillnets.ie/sites/skillnets.ie/files/pdf/indecon_evaluation...
	https://www.skillnetireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Skillnet-Irel...
	https://www.skillnetireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Skillnet-Irel...
	https://www.skillnetireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/SNI-Annual-Re...