

Below is an outline of the programmes and services that Business Support & Innovation offers to business.

Programme/Service	What is it?	What's it for?	Who's it for?
Innovation Voucher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £5,000 to buy 62 hours of technical expertise from SRC to support innovation activity and bring new knowledge to help businesses innovate, develop and grow • Fully funded but VAT is payable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New or improved products, processes or services • Access to scientific research • Access to information & expertise on new materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMEs • Social Enterprises • Third Sector organisations • All industries except transport & agriculture
Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Company-college-graduate partnership improving business competitiveness and productivity through access to academic knowledge and expertise • A full-time employee for 1-3 yrs • Weekly assistance from an SRC staff member • Up to 60% costs covered; company must cover remaining 40% (£20k/year) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New and existing products, services, systems • Improving logistics • Streamlining manufacturing processes • Business and marketing strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK-based SMEs • All industries
Innovation Boost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-border company-college-graduate partnership worth up to €67,900 • Full-time graduate employee for 12-18months • Weekly mentoring assistance from SRC academic • 50% graduate employment costs covered; 100% of other eligible costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New or improved product development • New or improved service development • New or improved business processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing or tradeable services company • 5-249 employees • 2 years trading history • Capacity for innovation
InnovateUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 60 hours of bespoke support for innovation and skills enhancement worth up to £6,000 • Support provided is fully funded. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New or modified product, service or process development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small & Micro businesses including Social Enterprises (≤50 staff) actively trading charities and community groups excluded. • All industries
Skills Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accredited, non-regulatory training, levels 2 and above • 75% costs covered by DfE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry-specific training • BIM • Welding • Customer service • Digital marketing • Health and social care • Much more! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMEs < 250 staff • Priority and emerging sectors
Upskilling for Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accredited and non-accredited training • Competitive Rates • Delivered on-site or on campus • Tailored to client needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry-specific training • Leadership & management • Customer service • Digital Skills • Health & Safety • Health & Social Care • Plus many more.. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRC partners, benefiting from reduced rates • Open to all organisations.
Assured Skills Academies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-employment accredited training • Company and college work together to develop bespoke training academy • DfE covers 100% costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To fill vacancies in a company experiencing rapid growth • Welding • Data Analytics • Financial Contact Centre • Plus many more..... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Companies of all sizes • All industries
Apprenticeships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Job from Day 1, working a minimum of 21hrs per week with an NI Based employer. • Apprenticeships at Level 2 & 3. • Duration 1-4 years depending on starting levels and sector. • Opportunity to undertake Essential Skills with Literacy, Numeracy and ICT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assist employers recruit new talent • To assist employers upskill existing staff moving into a new job role 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NI based employer, registered with HMRC • Apprenticeships available in a wide range of sectors for 16-24year old and within priority skilled areas for applicants 25 years and over
Higher Level Apprenticeships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employers can grow their own talent • Apprentices are embedded within the business from day 1 • Apprentices complete 1 day training with SRC per week • HLA Programmes range from a 2-3 year duration • Apprentice achieves Foundation Degree or Accountancy is ATI Level 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fill higher level skills gaps • Attract higher calibre of staff • Increase productivity • Develop existing staff • Enable succession planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Companies of all sizes • All industries • No Upper age limit for apprentices
Short courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular, scheduled courses throughout the year • Regulatory training and staff development • Accredited and non-accredited coursesSubsidised and non-subsidised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry-specific training • Leadership & management • Digital marketing • Manual handling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMEs and sole traders • All industries
Connected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A network of universities and colleges in Northern Ireland set up to support businesses to step on to and move along the innovation escalator. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourages links between academia and industry, particularly SMEs • Stimulates innovation to better Northern Ireland's economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership network of:NI universities - QUB and UU • Colleges NI – SRC, SERC, NWRC, NRC, Belfast Met, SWC
Skill Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of free accredited courses to help upskill and reskill individuals to meet the needs of the economy as we emerge from the pandemic and continue to grow the Economy beyond it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upskilling and reskilling individuals in a range of areas including Childcare, Computing, Engineering, Digital Marketing, Leadership & Management, Green Technologies and many more. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals must be 18 on or before the course start date, eligible to work in N.I and resident in the UK for at least 3 years or is a person who has indefinite leave to enter or remain in the UK. • Candidates are only permitted to complete a maximum of 2 free courses at a time.