# **(a)** InterTradelreland

InterTradelreland is the only organisation which has been given responsibility by both Governments to boost North South economic co operation to the mutual benefit of Northern Ireland and Ireland.

InterTradeIreland is a powerful resource for business growth, helping SMEs through a strong mix of business intelligence, funding support and meaningful contacts.

	12 Months		18 Months	
Company	£	€	£	€
Grad Employment Cost	15,000	18,000	22,500	27,000
Grad Training & Development	1,500	2,000	1,500	2,000
Expenses*	2,500	3,300	3,000	4,000
Total	19,000	23,300	27,000	33,000

<sup>\*</sup>Project related Travel & Subsistence/Equipment.

	12 Months		18 Months	
Knowledge Centre	£	€	£	€
Joint Bid Completion	2,000	2,500	2,000	2,500
Academic Support	15,000	18,000	22,500	27,000
Academic Travel and Subsistence	3,000	3,600	4,500	5,400
Total	20,000	24,100	29,000	34,900

Funding amounts as of September 2018 and may be subject to change.

### InterTradeIreland

Phone 028 3083 4100 (048 from Ireland) Fax 028 3083 4155 (048 from Ireland) **Textphone** 028 3083 4169 (048 from Ireland) **Email** info@intertradeireland.com

InterTradelreland. The Old Gasworks Business Park Address

Kilmorey Street, Newry, Co. Down, BT34 2DE

InterTradeIreland will endeavour to facilitate requests for alternative formats of this publication including Irish Language, Ulster Scots, Braille, disk and audio cassette.

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- FUSION Technology Transfer
- Horizon 2020 Support & **Innovation Success**
- All-Island Innovation Programme
- US-Ireland R&D Partnership
- Challenge Reliable and Repeatable Innovation







# Together from ideas to innovation







## **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 £56,000/€67,900 for 18 month projects and up to

£39,000/€47,400 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 InterTradeIreland 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.

## Am I eligible?

For further information and eligibility criteria for all InterTradelreland support programmes, please visit our website: intertradeireland.com/fusion