



COVID 19– GRANTS AND FUNDING [UPDATE 2021]

There are a number of grants and other financial supports available to businesses in 2021 – specifically related to COVID-19, while others are existing grants that are being promoted as part of the plan to prepare business for 're opening' later in 2021!

ENTERPRISE IRELAND

1. Key Manager/Part Time Key Manager Grant

The aim of this initiative (provided through Enterprise Ireland) is to provide partial funding towards the cost of recruiting a **Full Time** or **Part Time Key Manager** with skills that are critical to the future growth of the business.

The grant has been introduced in order to support companies to attract senior leadership talent, whether on a fulltime or through more flexible working arrangements e.g. **CFO / CTO /R&D Manager** etc. This individual/role must also be able to contribute to significant and measurable strategic improvements in company productivity.

PLEASE NOTE - Any Sales/Marketing role or even a Business Development role with Sales/marketing responsibilities is **NOT** an eligible role.

The grant will be provided against salary costs up to a **maximum of €100,000**, after a formal evaluation of the application.

Key Requirements

- the business **MUST** be an Enterprise Ireland client
- the business **MUST** employ 10 or more full time employees
- the business **MUST** be trading for at least 2 years - at the date of application
- the role being recruited **MUST** be a senior management (key/strategic) role
- the business **MUST** be a new role based in Ireland

2. COVID-19 Business Financial Planning Grant

This scheme is aimed at supporting eligible businesses to develop a **Business Sustainment Project Plan**. This is a robust financial plan which will assist and support the business with application(s) for finance support from banks and other external finance providers.

The grant allows for the engagement of an external financial consultant to assist with the preparation of this plan for use with banks or investors, and/or developing a medium term financial plan for the business.

The COVID-19 Business Financial Planning grant is for a **maximum of €5,000** against the costs of an '**approved**' Financial consultant.

Key Requirements

- the business **MUST** be an Enterprise Ireland client
- the business **MUST** employ 10 or more full time employees
- the business **MUST** be in the manufacturing or internationally traded services sector



LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICES

1. Trading Online Voucher Scheme (TOV)

The Trading Online Voucher scheme is an Government grant scheme which forms part of the National Digital Strategy. It is aimed at small businesses (with less than 10 employees) to enable them to trade more online, boost sales and reach new markets.

Funding is provided through Local Enterprise Offices, and can be used towards adding payment facilities or booking systems to an existing website, developing new apps or adding online retail platforms to establish a retailing presence online.

The '**expanded**' TOV grant (due to COVID-19) provides financial assistance of up to €2,500, with a maximum co funding requirement of 10% from the business.

Key Requirements

- the business **MUST** be a Local Enterprise Office (LEO) client (located in that LEO region)
- the business **MUST** employ no more than 10 full time employees
- the business **MUST** have a turnover of less than €2m turnover
- the business **MUST** be trading for at least 6 months
- the expenditure **MUST** be on 'eligible' development costs

2. LEAN for Micro Scheme

The LEAN for Micro scheme is available to Local Enterprise Office clients to help build resilience within small companies. It allows eligible businesses to avail of consultancy support with a LEAN Expert who will help to implement lean principles, undertake a specific cost savings project and/or introduce '**benchmarking**' of business performance.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the LEAN for Micro grant can now be used to implement new '**remote working**' and physical distancing guidelines.

The grant will provide up to 5.5 days of consultancy support of LEAN for Micro consultants to successful applicants – **with no financial contribution required from the business.**

Key Requirements

- the business **MUST** be a Local Enterprise Office (LEO) client (located in that LEO region)