

Department for Business Innovation & Skills

Employer Ownership of Skills – Pilot Scheme

State aid reference no: SA35327

1. Member State

United Kingdom

2. Region

United Kingdom

3. Title of aid scheme

Employer Ownership of Skills Pilot

4. UK legal basis

The employer projects arising from the employer ownership pilot will be funded using the Secretary of States powers under section 14 of the Education Act 2002.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/32/contents>

5. EC Legal basis

Aid provided under this scheme will be within limits set out in Articles 39 of Commission (EC) Regulation 800/2008 (General Block Exemption Regulation).

Summary information relating to the Scheme has been registered with the Commission under reference

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:214:0003:0047:EN:PDF>

6. Definitions

For the purposes of the scheme, the following definitions shall apply:

1. 'specific training' means training involving tuition directly and principally applicable to the employee's present or future position in the undertaking and providing qualifications which are not or only to a limited extent transferable to other undertakings or fields of work;

2. 'general training' means training involving tuition which is not applicable only or principally to the employee's present or future position in the undertaking, but which provides qualifications that are largely transferable to other undertakings or fields of work. Training shall be considered 'general' if, for example:

(a) it is jointly organised by different independent undertakings or where employees of different undertakings may avail themselves of the training;

(b) it is recognised, certified or validated by public authorities or bodies or by other bodies or institutions on which a Member State or the Community has conferred the necessary powers.

7. Objective of the Scheme

The aims of the scheme are:

- Increase the impact of work readiness, workforce development and Apprenticeships activity
- Employers are better able to secure the training they need by having the influence they require over quality and content and can shape training provision to meet their needs
- Collaboration amongst employers to address cross-sector or supply chain skills challenges is increased
- Employer leadership, commitment and investment in skills is increased, including the involvement of employers who do not have a track record of investing in skills.

8. Government body authorised to implement the scheme

Department for Business Innovation and Skills

9. Scope of the Scheme

The Scheme will be open to all employers irrespective of size and sector in England

10. Duration of the Scheme

Aid under this Scheme will be granted from August 2012 to August 2014

11. Form of aid

Aid will be awarded by way of grants

12. Eligible Costs

The relevant eligible cost is:

Where using Article 39 the eligible costs of a training aid project shall be:

- (a) trainers' personnel costs;
- (b) trainers' and trainees' travel expenses, including accommodation;
- (c) other current expenses such as materials and supplies directly related to the project;
- (d) depreciation of tools and equipment, to the extent that they are used exclusively for the training project;
- (e) cost of guidance and counselling services with regard to the training project;
- (f) trainees' personnel costs and general indirect costs (administrative costs, rent, overheads) up to the amount of the total of the other eligible costs referred to in points (a) to (e). As regards the trainees' personnel costs, only

the hours during which the trainees actually participate in the training, after deduction of any productive hours, may be taken into account.

13. Aid Intensities

Where using Article 39 maximum aid intensity is 80% of the eligible costs.

14. Budget

The maximum allocation of funds under this Scheme over the period August 2012 to August 2014 is £250m. Please note BIS does not expect equal levels of spending across year 1 and 2.

15. Monitoring and reporting requirements

All recipients of aid under the scheme will be informed that aid has been provided under the Scheme.

Records will be kept for 10 years from the date that the last award of aid under the Scheme is made and records will be sufficiently detailed to establish that conditions of the Scheme are met.

An annual report of expenditure of the Scheme will be provided to the Commission.

Contact Information

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