

## Enterprise Support Grants (ESG)

There are grants available of up to €2,500 on Back To Work Enterprise Allowance

To apply you ***MUST*** already have been approved onto the BTWEA scheme

- The maximum payment over 24 months is €2,500. (*Please note: if you are on the Short Term Enterprise Allowance scheme, you can only receive a pro-rata amount e.g. if you have a 9 month Jobseekers Benefit entitlement, your grant will be €937; while if you have a 6 month Jobseekers Benefit entitlement, your grant will be €625*)
- The payment is made directly to the supplier of the goods/services. You must pay a minimum 20% for each item you wish to apply for. For example if you send in a quote for €1000.00, you pay €200 and DSP pay €800.
- To further your grant application, you should organise a meeting with a case officer in your local Social Welfare office.
- On the ESG application form, it asks for a copy of your business plan and business registration. All of these documents were forwarded to Social Welfare when you were approved on to the scheme. However, it would be suggested that you provide a copy, as this will speed up the process.

### Accepted Expenditure :-

The level of grant should not exceed the limits set out in the following table and should be calculated on the basis of documentary evidence provided by the applicant (quotations from at least two suppliers or if a single supplier, the reason for Choosing a single supplier)

Category	Annual Limit aggregate	Applicant minimum contribution
⊙ Accountancy and related services, including legal advice	Up to €500	20%
⊙ Advertising and marketing aids (business cards, flyers)	Up to €500	20%
⊙ Business equipment, including such items as office machinery, computers/printer, other equipment/	Up to €1,000	20%
⊙ Business mentoring (may be offered free or at a reduced rate by LEO/LDCs)	Up to €250	20%
⊙ Business registration costs and fees	Up to €250	20%
⊙ Compliance, guidance and training (including, manual handling, health and safety and similar training, Hazard Analysis & Critical Control Point (HACCP)).	Up to €250	20%
⊙ Job specific tools/equipment	Up to €1,000	20%
⊙ Office supplies/stationery	Up to €250	20%
⊙ Personal protective clothing and equipment	Up to €250	20%
⊙ Public Liability Insurance costs associated with starting up a business – no other insurance is eligible.	Up to €1,000	20%
⊙ Short-duration training/instruction relating to book keeping, regulation, roll-out of business plan, IT courses, start-your-own-business and courses of training related to the business start-up	Up to €250	20%
⊙ Signage	Up to €500	20%

Category	Annual Limit aggregate	Applicant minimum contribution
⊙ Upgrading to premises where the premises is owned by the applicant.	Up to €1,000	20%
⊙ Website registration, related services & production	Up to €500	20%
Combination of above in any 24 month period	€2,500	

### Ineligible expenditure

Items not specified in the business proposal and plan should generally not be supported without additional information being provided (related to changes in circumstances of the business proposal).

The following items are **not eligible** under this scheme:

- Building/premises rental costs
- Costs of travel (airline tickets, business trips, foreign travel, conferences)
- Insurance (other than Public Liability)
- Personal clothing & uniforms (excluding protective clothing)
- Professional development programmes arranged by professional and regulatory bodies e.g. Engineers, Accountants, and Legal Profession etc.
- Purchase of any type of vehicle
- Renovations to premises (not owned by the jobseeker)
- Stock- in- trade
- Training or Education other than what is specified above in Section 5.
- Utility costs (electricity, water supply, communication (telephone/broadband) connection or supply, local authority rates