

Financing adult learning database

Name of the instrument - Local language	Impuls-Qualifizierungsverbund
Name of the instrument - English translation	Impulse Qualification Network
Scheme ID	226
Country	 Austria
Reporting year	2020
Type of instrument	Grant for companies
Sub-type of instrument	Support for direct costs and wage costs
Type of entry	Single instrument

Short description	Company networks composed of at least three companies where at least 50% of them are SMEs can apply for the grant. 100% funding is provided for external consulting for building and operating the confederation, identifying training needs and designing training plans, advising on the development of HRD programmes, organising training, providing support during the application process, etc. (10 days of consulting max). Moreover, up to 50% of training costs are provided for men with only compulsory education (ISCED11 0-2), women with an intermediate level of education (ISCED11 3) yet without Higher Education Entrance permission (Matura), and all employees age 45 or older. Beyond training costs, a contribution to the wage costs during participation in training is available. There is no limitation to re-use the grant.
Short description of the related instruments	Not applicable

Level of operation	National
Name of a part of the country	Not applicable
Name of the region (for regional instruments)	Not applicable
Name of the sector (for sectoral instruments)	Not applicable

Relevance	Key instrument
Legal basis	Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz (act on public employment service).
Objective(s) and target(s)	To exchange experience between companies, to organise training in line with the needs of the members of the network, and increase their participation in/provision of training.
Year of implementation	2007
Operation/management	Public Employment Service (AMS) administers the scheme
Eligible group(s)	All employers, however, participation of SMEs is required; the built up confederations need to include at least three companies where at least 50% of participating companies are SMEs. SMEs are defined as employing less than 250 persons and have an annual turnover not exceeding 50 million. Up to 50% of training costs are provided for men with only compulsory education (ISCED11 0-2), women with intermediate level of education (ISCED11 3) yet without Higher Education Entrance permission (Matura), and all employees age 45 or older.
Group(s) with preferential treatment	For employed (men and women) with only compulsory education, wage subsidies during training is more generous (50% of eligible wages starting with the first hour of training instead of starting after 24 hours of training)
Education and training eligible	Funding for building and operating the confederation, identifying training needs and designing training plans, advising on the development of HRD programs, organising trainings, providing support during the application process, etc.
Source of financing and collection mechanism	State (Federal budget allocated to the Public Employment Service (AMS))
Financing formula and allocation mechanisms	Companies apply to AMS for grant. The scheme funds basic costs for setting a qualifications network. The maximum duration of consultancy is 10 days per company involved. The support services are funded by AMS entirely. Companies receive funding in the form of advanced payment on first-come, first-served basis. As part of the networks, cofunding for the training costs of particular groups can be obtained. 50% of eligible course fees; 50% wage subsidy during participation in courses, starting with the 25th course hour. (For adults with compulsory education only: starting with the first course hour) up to 10 000 for each individual participant supported.
Eligible costs	Training fees; wage subsidy for the time during training (50% of eligible wage costs, starting with the 25th hour of a course; for adults with only compulsory education: starting with the first hour of the course).
Volumes of funding	From 1.7.2015 until 28.2.2017 EUR 1 905 228,74

Beneficiaries/take up	From 1.7.2015 until 28.2.2017 692 companies in 54 of such cooperation frameworks
Organisation responsible for monitoring/evaluation	Public Employment Service Austria (AMS).
Most relevant webpage - in English	https://www.ams.at/organisation/public-employment-service-austria
Most relevant webpage - local language	https://www.ams.at/unternehmen/personal--und-organisationsentwicklung/i...
Recent changes	No recent amendment Recent changes in response to COVID-19 No changes
Sources	https://www.ams.at/unternehmen/personal--und-organisationsentwicklung/i... https://www.parlament.gv.at/PAKT/VHG/XXV/AB/AB_11367/imfname_628733.pdf