


Financing adult learning database

Name of the instrument - Local language	Bildungsscheck Brandenburg
Name of the instrument - English translation	Education Cheque Brandenburg
Scheme ID	232
Country	 Germany
Reporting year	2015
Type of instrument	Grant for companies
	Grant for individuals
Type of entry	Example for a group of instruments

Short description	All employees paying social insurance contributions with principal residence in the State of Brandenburg (no civil servants, self-employed persons or students) can apply for the grant. The participation in an individual job-independent continuing vocational training is eligible for funding. Associate degree related qualifications are also eligible if no funding under the Career Advancement Training Promotion Act (AFBG) is possible. The public co-funding share is 70% of training costs.
Short description of the related instruments	Many Federal States (Länder) in Germany implemented cost-sharing schemes in the ESF funding period from 2007 to 2013, where ESF and national funds were used for providing various types of vouchers for further education. Co-funding schemes are continued under the new ESF funding period (2014-2020), however, schemes are adapted on the one hand to introduced federal funding schemes, on the other hand to reduced available ESF funds for further education (estimated to be EUR 300 to EUR 400 million per year across all Federal States). The voucher in North Rhine-Westphalia, providing training vouchers for individuals and employees is by far (with EUR 9 million funding in 2012) the largest program of the 16 German States. Examples of the States with voucher schemes for companies - or also open for individuals - include Schleswig-Holstein, Hessen, North Rhine-Westphalia, Hamburg, Saxony, Thuringia and Bremen. Beyond voucher schemes, the Federal States may provide co-funding for further education and training as part of other initiatives, for example, in the field of innovation policies. An overview on all cost-sharing schemes and funding schemes is available in a database

(<http://www.foerderdatenbank.de>). There is no recent overview on funding volumes and beneficiaries. For 2012, it has been estimated, that approximately 40 000 individuals benefited from a voucher by the Federal States.

Level of operation	Regional
Name of a part of the country	nap
Name of the region (for regional instruments)	Brandenburg
Name of the sector (for sectoral instruments)	nap
Relevance	Marginal scheme
Legal basis	Directive of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Women and Family to promote vocational training - skills development through training of employees and in SMEs in Brandenburg (training policy) from June 13, 2013 (Richtlinie des Ministeriums für Arbeit, Soziales, Frauen und Familie zur Förderung der beruflichen Weiterbildung - Kompetenzentwicklung durch Qualifizierung von Beschäftigten und in kleinen und mittleren Unternehmen im Land Brandenburg (Weiterbildungsrichtlinie) vom 13. Juni 2013)
Objective(s) and target(s)	To preserve and improve the employability of workers as well as the stabilization and the gaining of jobs in SMEs. The continuous participation in vocational training is to be increased.
Year of implementation	2009
Year of latest amendment	2014
Operation/management	LASA - Landesagentur für Struktur und Arbeit Brandenburg GmbH (LASA State Agency for Structure and Labour Brandenburg GmbH) The LASA Brandenburg GmbH serves as a labour market policy service organisation for the implementation of labour and structural policies and support the adjustment processes in the labor market in Brandenburg since 1991.
Eligible group(s)	All employees paying social insurance contributions with principal residence in the State of Brandenburg (no civil servants, self-employed, students).
Group(s) with preferential treatment	None
Education and training eligible	Participation in an individual job-independent continuing vocational training. Also Associate degree related qualifications are eligible if no funding under the Career Advancement Training Promotion Act (AFBG) is possible.

Source of financing and collection mechanism	Länder's budget
Financing formula and allocation mechanisms	Public co-funding: at least 70%. Allocation: At least three comparing offers have to be collected in order to make a content-wise and economical-wise assessment.
Eligible costs	Fees only (for the course and exam)
Volumes of funding	The volume of funding for this scheme was EUR 450 000 in 2012.
Beneficiaries/take up	In 2012, 1 500 individuals were funded by this scheme in Brandenburg.
Organisation responsible for monitoring/evaluation	LASA Landesagentur für Struktur und Arbeit Brandenburg GmbH - LASA State Agency for Structure and Labour GmbH Brandenburg: The LASA Brandenburg GmbH serves as a labor market policy service organization for the implementation of labor and structural policies and support the adjustment processes in the labor market in Brandenburg since 1991.
Monitoring/evaluation reports available	na
Most relevant webpage - in English	na
Most relevant webpage - local language	http://www.lasa-brandenburg.de/Bildungsscheck-Brandenburg.1184.0.html
Sources	http://www.lasa-brandenburg.de/Bildungsscheck-Brandenburg.1184.0.html Dohmen, Dieter. (2013). Finanzierung beruflicher Weiterbildung in Deutschland. Report. Zeitschrift für Weiterbildungsforschung. H, 3, 61-84.