

Coast to Capital Region Business Growth Grants

Grants between £15,000 and £100,000

Are you a small or medium business, planning to create new jobs and increase your turnover but not finding it easy to raise the finance required? Would a capital grant of up to 50% of the total project cost make the difference between going ahead with your growth plans and not being able to?

Coast to Capital are inviting expressions of interest from small and medium sized businesses that are looking to expand and create new jobs. **Grants** of between **£15,000** and **£100,000** will be available to eligible businesses. Because the Local Growth Fund is in the form of a capital grant, it may only be used to fund the acquisition, enhancement or creation of capital assets which have a useful life of at least 12 months. **Only capital items are eligible** for expenditure for this grant programme.

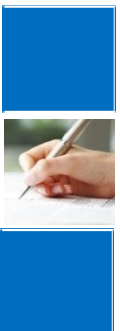
Applicants wishing to apply for activities related to Research, Development and Innovation, for example software development, development of new products and prototype development and testing (this list is not exhaustive) should note that these types of projects are likely to involve substantial expenditure that is unable to be classed as capital expenditure and will need to be considered on a case by case basis to gain clarity and agreement on eligibility. Therefore applicants for this type of project should engage in discussions with the Growth Grants management team ASAP.

Eligible expenditure items include but are not limited to:

- Machinery
- Building works – refurbishment &
- Furniture & fittings & storage equipment
- Plant & essential building services
- Commercial catering equipment & plant
- ICT equipment & Infrastructure
- Business vehicles
- Tools & other essential equipment
- One – off security equipment
- Retail fittings & point of sale

Other project costs that are not included in this list may be met by the applicant's match funding but will not be eligible for grant funding from this programme.

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To be eligible businesses must:

- ❖ Be able to **incur** grant expenditure by **31st March 2016**.
- ❖ Show how the grant will lead to new jobs and meet the minimum cost per job figure of £10,000.
- ❖ Be able to demonstrate that they have explored fully other sources of funding without success.
- ❖ Be able to demonstrate other investment alongside the grant- we will provide up to 50% of the project costs as a grant and you will need to provide the remaining 50%.
- ❖ Show how the project will have a positive impact on the local economy and how it will benefit the local community and the local environment.
- ❖ Show how the proposed new activity is additional to existing business activity and to the local economy.
- ❖ Be in one of the Coast to Capital priority sectors listed below and/or be able to demonstrate strong medium term growth plans. Retail is not an eligible sector.
 - Advanced Engineering
 - Manufacturing
 - Healthcare, Medical Technology & Life Sciences
 - Creative, Digital and IT
 - Environmental Technologies, Goods & Services
- ❖ Have premises in or be planning to create new jobs in the Coast to Capital areas:
 - West Sussex
 - Tandridge
 - Brighton and Hove
 - Mole Valley
 - Croydon
 - Epsom & Ewell
 - Lewes
 - Reigate & Banstead



Applications are now open and businesses will first be required to complete an **Expression of Interest form** which we will review to decide whether your business will be invited to make a full application. Submissions for EOI will close on **15th September 2015 at 12pm** or before, if the amount of funding available (£1,000,000) is awarded prior to this final deadline date. For further information and to download the application form please visit <http://www.coast2capital.org.uk/2-uncategorised/450-coast-to-capital-business-growth-grants> or alternatively contact Hannah Gosling on 01403 333840 or grants@coast2capital.org.uk.