


A quick guide to...

Workforce Support Programmes

A round up of skills support for employers across Leicestershire, including: ESF Workforce Skills Support*, apprenticeships, and furlough support.

Outline of programme	 European Union European Social Fund	Contact
ESF funded workforce support	<p>Skills Support for the Workforce (SSW)*</p> <p>This FREE offer helps small and medium sized businesses (less than 250 employees) based in Leicester and Leicestershire with the skills that their employees need to help the business to grow, across all sectors.</p> <p>What's on offer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A training needs analysis, identifying the skills you need to support your business ambitions • Flexible training – pick full qualifications or mix and match individual units to suit your business • Taught learning, distance learning and online learning • Learning pathways to enabling progress within your organisation • Recognised accredited qualifications and training courses. <p>Previous SSW programme participants have benefited from increased employee confidence, motivation, productivity and improved employee loyalty and retention.</p> <p>Serco also have a Skills Support for Redundancy programme providing you with funded support to ensure your employees get access to bespoke training to support them to find suitable employment or their next career.</p>	<p>Managed by Serco skillssupport@serco.com</p> <p>www.serco-ssw.com or email: Howard Cordingley, Howard.Cordingley@serco.com</p> <p>COVID 19 support: SERCO are open for referrals from businesses and much of the training on offer is being adapted to be delivered online.</p> <p>SSW ends for referrals on March 31 2023</p>



<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">ESF funded workforce support</p>	<p>Sector-led growth*</p> <p>Futures are proud to support small and medium Sized Enterprises (SME's) in Leicester and Leicestershire with developing their staff to gain fully funded (FREE) qualifications, to take the next steps in their career and become more proficient in their current roles.</p> <p>We are currently able to offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Computer Driving License (ECDL): The world's number one IT user qualification, the ECDL qualification is recognised by employers across the globe as the benchmark in digital and IT user skills. • Functional Skills in maths and English: providing essential knowledge and skills that will enable the individual to operate confidently and effectively in work and put core skills into their everyday roles. • Level 2 Diploma in Health and Social Care: suitable for any individual working at a care provider or wanting to start a career in the care sector. 	<p>Managed by Futures, email: SLG@futuresforbusiness.com</p> <p>COVID 19 support: Futures are open for referrals from businesses and much of the training on offer is being adapted to be delivered online.</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Furlough or redundancy support</p>	<p>Furlough and redundancy support</p> <p>Furloughed staff: Employers can refer staff who are furloughed to Futures for FREE support, advice, and training options during their period of furlough.</p> <p>Redundancies: If you are having to make redundancies, Futures can support your staff to explore new options, with FREE training, CV, and job application support. Contact Futures with information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification of redundancies and scale • Number and job roles affected • Last day of work for affected individuals (if known). 	<p>Futures manage the area National Careers Service offer; all support is FREE and done virtually/online during the COVID 19 period.</p> <p>Furlough: Call 0116 2615 907 or email NationalCareersServiceNCC@futuresforyou.com</p> <p>Redundancies (Futures): Email: leicestershire@futuresforyou.com Phone Sarah Baranyai on 07570 671594</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">ESF recruitment support</p>	<p>Leicester Employment Hub*</p> <p>Great for SME employers who wish to 'grow' their own talent</p> <p>You will be guided through any 'red tape' on training schemes and get impartial support and advice on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apprenticeships and Traineeships • Work experience and Internships • Volunteering • Bulk vacancies <p>The offer includes FREE expert advice on any government or council grants available. On the job training and recruitment support will be provided by an appointed training provider. We will also promote your vacancies to job ready clients.</p>	<p>Managed by Leicester City Council Contact: Tracey Waterfield Tracey.Waterfield@leicester.gov.uk 0116 454 2945 www.leicesteremploymenthub.co.uk Email: employmenthub@leicester.gov.uk</p> <p>COVID 19 support: The Employment Hub is now operating an online service with information on our website and promotion taking place on Facebook and twitter.</p>



	<p>NEW! Asda levy transfer pot to support local businesses with apprenticeships. Asda has kindly donated some of their unspent apprenticeship levy to help local businesses to grow their own. Contact the Leicester Employment Hub to find out more.</p>	<p>Ends for referrals on Sept 30 2023</p>
<p>Schools</p>	<p>Schools and colleges A great FREE way to raise awareness of your organisation or industry to the workforce of tomorrow is to engage with local schools and colleges. The Careers and Enterprise Company Enterprise Adviser programme coordinates businesses in engaging with the senior leads of a school or college to enhance careers and enterprise planning.</p>	<p>Contact: EAN@llep.org.uk 0116 454 2910 Enterprise Adviser Network LLEP</p> <p>COVID 19: The EAN team are working as normal and are happy to take referrals.</p>
<p>Future Work Force</p>	<p>Building the Workforce of the Future The LLEP worked with local colleges, universities, and skills provider partners to create a FREE snapshot guide for employers about support for a range of common employer skills challenges. The guide has all the information you need to offer employer encounters, experience of the workplace, work placements and internships, and the new T Level industry placements, and how these programmes can benefit you in the long term.</p>	<p>See our Building the Workforce of the Future FREE guide on: Information and Resources for Employers LLEP</p> <p>Or call/email Anna Cyhan on 0116 454 2919 for a printed copy. Anna.Cyhan@llep.org.uk</p>



Recruitment support

Sector based work academies and job fairs

Beneficial for employers who may have bulk vacancies, and who need tailored pre-work training, relevant to the business for new employees. A sector-based work academy can last up to 6 weeks and has 3 main components for potential employees:

- pre-employment training – relevant to the needs of the business and sector
- a work experience placement
- a guaranteed job-interview

Job Centre Plus will also advertise your vacancies **free of charge** and offer a range of free initiatives such as **Work Trials** and a **Small Business Recruitment Service**.

Email:

City of Leicester

Denise Hickling, DWP LEICESTER
WELLINGTON STREET

DENISE.HICKLING@DWP.GOV.UK

Leicestershire

Gillian Metcalfe, DWP MELTON
MOWBRAY PARKSIDE

GILLIAN.METCALFE@DWP.GOV.UK

No cost, government funded.

Local training providers, colleges and universities work with local people and students to move them into opportunities and can also help.

Leicester: Graduate City*

Leicester City Council, De Montfort University and the University of Leicester have an **ESF supported internship scheme to support small businesses** to offer workplace opportunities to students.

A range of six-week internships will be offered by local businesses, to be completed by second-year students at both local universities. The internships will highlight the range and quality of job opportunities, helping to promote and increase graduate retention and support local businesses.

Training providers, colleges, universities, contact direct.

The **Graduate City Project Manager** is

Sally Hackett

sally.hackett@leicester.gov.uk

Plan for Jobs 2020-2021 incentives

New plan for jobs incentives 2020-2021

The Government has introduced the following **employer incentives** linked to recruitment ('[Plan for Jobs](#)')

- **Apprenticeships:** Available until 30 September
£3,000 – new employee incentive
- **Traineeships (16-24-year olds)**
£1,000 (limit of 10 Traineeships per employer) to 31 July 2021
- **Kickstart**

Funding to create new placements, 100% of wages are subsidised at NMW for up to 25 hours, must recruit ages 16-24 on Universal Credit. Additional £1500 to help with employability/development.

- **T Levels**

[T Levels](#) are a new, 2-year qualification for 16 to 19-year olds. They have been created with employers, and part of the offer is a 45-day work placement. Local colleges are offering T Levels, and there may be incentives for placements in 2021/2022.

- **FREE level 3 qualifications for adults**

Available to any adult who has not already gained a level 3 qualification (equivalent to A levels), designed to help them to gain in-demand skills. Almost [400 qualifications](#) are available to take from April 2021 as part of the government's Lifetime Skills Guarantee. Can

Contact:

Apprenticeships and traineeships

Leicester Employment Hub (see overleaf), local colleges and training providers, or call the National Apprenticeship Service on 0800 015 0600

Kickstart

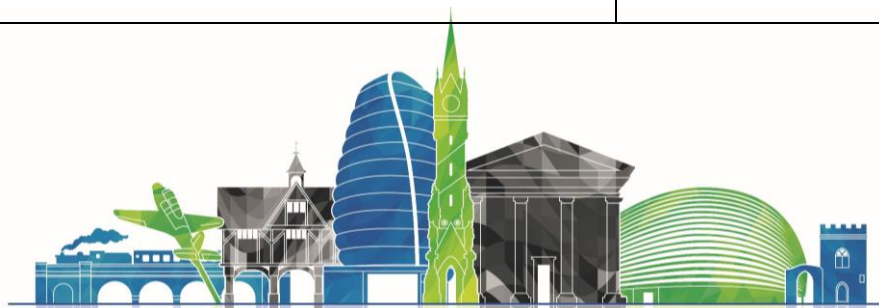
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collect/kickstart-scheme>

T Levels

[T Levels and industry placements for employers | T Levels](#)

Level 3 qualifications for adults

www.gov.uk/government/publications/find-a-free-level-3-qualification/list-of-free-level-3-qualifications-available-to-eligible-adults



support your staff with free training from local colleges and training providers.

Charnwood Careers & Enterprise Hub

The Careers & Enterprise Hub, a partnership between Loughborough College and Loughborough University, to help you to unlock potential to support your business. The Hub offers several services to employers, including:

- **Apprenticeships** – advice and support
- **Commercial/Professional training** – discuss your organisations training requirements and can recommend bespoke training.
- **Kickstart** – acting as an intermediary provider and support with your application.
- **Distance learning** – broad range of short programmes to enhance your workforce’s knowledge and skills.
- **Vacancies** – promote any vacancies that you may have.
- **T Level & Industry Placements** – opportunity to support a young person in an Industry Placement or work placement.
- **Supported Internship** – supporting a young person with Special Education Needs or disabilities who have an education, health and care plan with a placement.

Contact

Arrange a Covid-secure visit by emailing us at: Email us: careershubs@loughborough.ac.uk

Find us at 14 Market Place, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3EA.

Opening times are
 Monday 9.00 – 17.00,
 Tuesday 12.00 – 19.00,
 Wednesday 12.00 – 19.00,
 Thursday 9.00 – 17.00,
 Friday 9.00 – 16.30,
 Saturdays 10.00 – 14.30

See also the one stop shop for business advice and support, the LLEP Business Gateway Growth Hub bizgateway.org.uk

