Introducing the Management KTP

Effective management can transform business performance. That is why Innovate UK has introduced a new programme designed to inject significant management expertise that expands business capability, boosts business growth and enables lasting transformation.

The initiative is called a Management Knowledge Transfer Partnership. It works just like a KTP, only the partnership is with a Business School and the focus is on management-based projects designed to improve business performance. Talk to one of our Knowledge Transfer Advisers to find out more.

Competition Dates

Funding competitions are open throughout the year. Please click here for funding competition closing dates.

Find out more

- ktp-uk.org
- linkedin.com/showcase/ktn-ktp
- @ktn_ktp

Powering Innovation
Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Innovation is the lifeblood of any business. But how do you access and embed the expertise needed to make it happen?

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships could be the answer

Need to know:

Businesses and not-for-profit organisations who wish to apply for a Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) should:

- Be UK based and of sufficient size to support the project
- Have the financial capacity to make the required contribution to the cost of running a Knowledge Transfer Partnership
- Be aware that KTPs can have a long-term legacy that can be measured over five years as well as shorter term impact
- Be able to show that their project demonstrates Impact, Innovation, Challenge and Cohesiveness.

How to apply

First, talk to one of our Knowledge Transfer Advisers. They are based throughout the UK and are responsible for helping you every step of the way: they’ll work with you to shape the project brief in preparation for a grant application; and, once the project is up and running, will make regular visits to your business to provide input to the project’s progress, coaching and mentoring the Associate, ensuring that the academics understand your needs, and helping optimise ROI.
Collaborate to drive innovation

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs) create dynamic connections between businesses and the UK’s world-class knowledge base to deliver strategic innovation projects.

Result? The opportunity for your business to realise positive, transformational change and growth.

KTPs create a mutually beneficial business/knowledge base partnership led by a suitably qualified graduate (known as the Associate) with the capability to lead a strategic project. This partnership embeds vital new expertise, stimulates business growth and powers innovation excellence.

A KTP also provides your business with extraordinary and cost-effective access to the unique resources within the UK’s knowledge base: research expertise, cutting-edge technology and equipment, and solution-oriented initiatives.

Embedding expertise for growth

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships have been helping UK businesses innovate for growth for over 45 years. KTPs are funded by UKRI through Innovate UK with supporters including the Scottish Funding Council, Welsh Government, Invest Northern Ireland, Defra and BEIS. Innovate UK manages the KTP programme and facilitates its delivery through a range of partners including KTN, Knowledge Bases and Businesses. Each partner plays a specific role in the support and delivery of the programme.

KTN connects people to accelerate innovation for economic, societal or environmental benefit and provides specialist support via Knowledge Transfer Advisers to help companies succeed in a KTP.

“KTPs are a fantastic route for companies to innovate, revitalise and as frameworks through which to develop strong, long-lasting relationships with local universities. The structure of the KTP and the structure of the process of qualifying for a KTP enable a deliverable commercial benefit to an organisation’s knowledge.”

Mr Rob Burgin, formerly Managing Director, BemroseBooth Paragon

Transforming your business

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships can help your business:

• Embed expertise, generate new knowledge, expand capability and foster a culture of innovation
• Drive competitive advantage through accelerated innovation and the possibility of creating Intellectual Property
• Gain privileged and cost-effective access to the UK’s world-class knowledge base and resources
• Increase revenue through access to new markets and new product development
• Improve profits through efficiency gains, increased productivity and better processes
• Benefit from the strategic input of a highly experienced Knowledge Transfer Adviser and access to KTN throughout the lifetime of the project.

Partnerships for success - the power of three

A Knowledge Transfer Partnership lasts for anything from one to three years. All of the knowledge gained during this time is embedded in the business, providing a valuable base to build on long after the project has finished. (A very high percentage of Associates are retained as employees, demonstrating the value they bring to the business).

KTPs can transform organisations of any size and in any sector looking to address a core strategic challenge.

Powering innovation

The cost of a Knowledge Transfer Partnership project is shared by the business and by Innovate UK and other government supporters who contribute 50-67% of the project cost via a grant to the academic or research organisation. The business makes a cash contribution for the remaining project cost with a small-to-medium business contributing 33% and a large business 50% per annum.

This cost is comparable to employing a well-qualified graduate, but includes so much more:

• Access to the exceptional resources of the knowledge base or research organisation
• A dedicated team to deliver a strategic project
• Expert academic input bringing a breadth and depth of knowledge to support the Associate and the project
• The consultancy and guidance of a highly experienced Knowledge Transfer Adviser
• The partnership introduces new capabilities and embeds knowledge
• The risk of developing the innovation project is shared with the government supporters
• The wider support and opportunities offered by links to KTN
• Businesses may still be eligible to claim for R&D tax credits.

Applications for KTPs enjoy a high chance of being successful, with around 90% of applications being accepted.

Career opportunities

Every KTP is driven by a KTP Associate. A great career kick-start for talented graduates and post grads these roles come with a substantial training budget, mentoring and coaching from our expert Knowledge Transfer Advisers, and offer exceptional opportunities to drive an innovation project.

Jobs at ktp-uk.org/jobs