Get a £10,000 business boost

We're offering University of Essex innovation vouchers up to the value of £10,000 (excluding VAT) which small and medium-sized businesses can use to pay for our experts’ time, giving you access to tailored support. You can use our vouchers in a number of ways. For example, you might want to make improvements to an existing product or service, or scope ideas to offer something new. Or, you could use the voucher to set up new business systems or processes, or develop training and development to support growth for your business.

How it works

First, get in touch with us by email and we'll guide you through the application process, and discuss your company’s needs so you can complete and submit your application, which will then be reviewed by our business panel. If accepted, you can reclaim project costs up to £10,000 (excluding VAT) on completion. Then, we’ll assess your application based on the scope of the project, the value it has to your business, and on the potential of us working together in the future. We’ll give priority to your business if you haven’t worked with us before.
The smallprint

If you want to apply for an innovation voucher, you must be an SME. This is defined by having an annual turnover of less than £25.9 million, fewer than 250 employees, and not having significant ownership (more than 25%) by a non-SME.

Ready cash to stimulate growth

You can use innovation vouchers to fund any innovative project that involves accessing our expertise. All projects must be delivered by the University of Essex and should result in innovation that will help stimulate business growth or unlock new opportunities. Our innovation voucher scheme does not support existing business activities, functions, or capital items, but consumables may be included.

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