

Frequently Asked Questions

How long is the funding available?

Our leadership programmes will be fully-funded for everyone taking part in one of our leadership programmes starting before March 31st 2022. Eligibility criteria applies (see below).

Am I eligible?

There are 2 primary eligibility requirements for the fully-funded programme:

Convergence Area - You are eligible for this funding if you are based (live or work) in one of the following convergence areas:

- Isle of Anglesey
- Conwy
- Denbighshire
- Gwynedd
- Ceredigion
- Carmarthenshire
- Swansea
- Neath Port Talbot
- Bridgend
- Rhondda Cynon Taf
- Pembrokeshire
- Merthyr Tydfil
- Caerphilly
- Blaenau Gwent
- Torfaen

De Minimis funding – You are eligible for this funding if you have not received more than €200,000 of de minimis funding over a 3-year fiscal year period.

What is De Minimis?

The de minimis regulation can be used by public authorities to award small amounts of aid to a single undertaking for a wide range of purposes.

How do I know how much de minimis funding I have received?

We want to make the application process as easy as possible. Therefore, once you have signed up for the programme you will receive an email including a letter explaining de minimis funding further and a form you will need to complete to show how much aid you have received. If on this form you just list all

of the funding you have received, our Finance Manager will assess your list to determine whether you are eligible.

I have received Small Business Grant Funding of £10,000 and Employment Allowance of £4,000. Does this count as de minimus aid?

Yes, it is de minimus aid and should be included in the Statement of De Minimus Aid received.

Bounce Back Loans

The £50,000 Bounce Back Loans are given under the Commission's Temporary Framework to support the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak, which is a State aid provision. They do not count towards an organisation's EU 200,000 entitlement under the de minimis exemption.

I'm a sole trader. Am I eligible?

Yes. The funding is available to businesses of all sizes, as long as they meet the above eligibility criteria in terms of location and de minimis funding.

I am currently furloughed. Can I apply?

Yes. Furloughed employees can engage in training, as long as in undertaking the training the employee does not provide services to, or generate revenue for, or on behalf of their organisation or a linked or associated organisation.

Will priority be given to businesses who haven't attended an ION programme previously?

No. Delegates are assessed on an individual, first come, first serve basis.

Due to the current coronavirus pandemic, how will these sessions be delivered?

Due to the current coronavirus pandemic, we have adapted our method of delivery and will be taking a more blended approach. The sessions will initially be delivered online via Zoom/Teams, and as and when the government restrictions around group meetings change, we hope to run some face-to-face learning sessions towards the end of each cohort. Numbers on each programme will be capped to ensure that an engaging programme can be delivered online.

Is there a limit on the number of delegates per business who can attend each programme?

There is no limit on the number of individuals in any one organisation who can apply. However, if there are a large number of delegates from any one organisation interested in attending, then please get in touch with the ION leadership team on ionleadership@swansea.ac.uk or ionleadership@bangor.ac.uk as we can discuss a bespoke programme for your organisation.



What if I still have unanswered questions?

This is a flexible document and we will add new questions to it as and when they arise. Therefore, if you have a question which has not been answered above, please let us know on ionleadership@swansea.ac.uk or ionleadership@bangor.ac.uk and we will get in touch with you ASAP.

