



Research and
Innovation Services
University of Dundee



Talk to us about
an innovation voucher →

innovate@dundee.ac.uk



Innovation Voucher

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Natural Index 2019

24066

Collaborate to innovate

Improve your business with an Innovation Voucher

Do you have a business challenge you don't know how to tackle? Are you looking to evolve or implement change but not sure where to start? If so, a Scottish Funding Council Innovation Voucher* can enable you to bring fresh ideas to the table.

Innovation Vouchers fund collaborative projects between businesses and academia. These funds enable small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to bring new academic knowledge into their business to help them innovate, develop and grow.

* Standard Vouchers provide up to £5,000 of match funding and Advanced Innovation Vouchers provide up to £20,000 of match funding.

An Innovation Voucher enables you to work with an academic expert in your field on a range of business purposes, such as:

- exploration of an innovative idea
- feasibility testing and proof of concept studies
- development of a new product or service
- enhancing workplace processes and practices



Four business benefits of applying for an Innovation Voucher with the University of Dundee

De-risking projects

Innovation can be a daunting consideration for small businesses with limited time and resources. When you engage with an academic team, they become committed to providing you with the best possible support and expertise for your project, subsequently de-risking the impact on your own resources.

Proof of Concept / Prototype

Innovation Vouchers can be utilised for investigating new products and can include the development of a low-fidelity prototype to demonstrate the proof of concept. This can help when applying for funds to take a new product through to commercialisation.

Project Feasibility

For projects in the very early stages of development (concept / idea stage), Innovation Vouchers provide a great way to fund the initial feasibility study of a project (prior to

the development of a technology roadmap and detailed plan for progressing the project to the next level). This process can highlight alternative and more effective approaches to those initially planned.

Long-lasting relationship

For many companies, applying for an Innovation Voucher is their first experience of working with the University of Dundee. This interaction provides a greater understanding of the support, expertise and facilities available within the University. Many companies who have collaborated with us initially through an Innovation Voucher have developed long-lasting relationships and partnerships with us.

How to access an Innovation Voucher

Accessing an Innovation Voucher is a straightforward process.

Talk to Research and Innovation Services at the University of Dundee. They will advise on how to collaborate with the University of Dundee and help you find academic expertise to match your project needs.

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“Every means of support helps when you’re a small business with limited resource. Through an Innovation Voucher you gain dedicated academic expertise towards a project, which allows fresh perspectives and ideas to come into your business. It’s a really effective way of accessing resources that you don’t otherwise have in-house.”

Ellen Pauley, Innovation Co-ordinator