



Your Guide to LEO Business Supports

Your Local Enterprise Office (LEO) offers a wide range of fully funded or heavily subsidised supports to help businesses start, grow, go digital, and become more sustainable. Jigsaw Better Business delivers a number of these programmes directly. Whether you're just starting out or ready to scale, there's something here for you — and if we can't help directly, we'll point you in the right direction.

Programmes Delivered by Jigsaw Better Business

All programmes below are subsidised by your Local Enterprise Office and available to eligible businesses across Ireland.

Lean for Business

What is it?

A practical programme to identify and eliminate waste, streamline operations and boost productivity. Structured mentoring with direct application to your own business.

Who is it for?

Established SMEs who feel overstretched, are losing time to recurring problems, or want to prepare the business for sustainable growth.

Eligibility

Trading 6+ months; revenues in excess of €30k. Fewer than 50 employees. Based in Ireland.

Digital for Business

What is it?

Helps you build a clear digital strategy, improve your online visibility and make smarter use of digital tools and platforms relevant to your business.

Who is it for?

Business owners who know digital matters but aren't sure where to focus, or who want a sharper, more strategic approach to their online presence.

Eligibility

Established trading businesses; fewer than 50 employees. Based in Ireland.

Grow Digital

What is it?

An advanced digital programme focused on driving growth through e-commerce, digital marketing and online customer acquisition strategies.

Who is it for?

Businesses that already have some digital presence and are ready to use it more ambitiously to grow revenue.

Eligibility

Active trading businesses with an existing digital presence. Based in Ireland.

Green for Business

What is it?

Helps your business reduce its environmental impact, lower energy costs, and build a practical sustainability action plan. Includes an

Who is it for?

Any SME looking to become more sustainable — whether for cost savings, customer expectations, or future-proofing the business.

Eligibility

Trading businesses; fewer than 50 employees. Based in Ireland.

environmental review of your operations.		
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Management Development Training

What is it? Practical, applied training covering leadership, team communication, performance management and decision-making — grounded in real business situations.	Who is it for? Owner-managers and senior team members who want to lead more confidently, develop their people and build stronger teams.	Eligibility SME owners and managers in Ireland.
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Operational Excellence Training

What is it? Advanced training in process improvement, quality management and embedding a culture of continuous improvement. Builds on core operational principles to drive lasting change.	Who is it for? Businesses ready to go further with efficiency — often a natural progression after completing Lean for Business.	Eligibility Trading businesses at any stage. Based in Ireland.
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Mentoring

What is it? Matched one-to-one sessions with an experienced business mentor, tailored to your specific challenges — from business planning to managing growth or entering new markets.	Who is it for? Any business at any stage. Especially valuable when facing key decisions, scaling challenges, or preparing to do something new.	Eligibility Any business registered with their Local Enterprise Office. Heavily subsidised — client contribution typically just €10–20 per session.
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Other Supports Available Through Your Local LEO

The following supports are available directly through your Local Enterprise Office. Contact your local LEO or visit localenterprise.ie to find out more and apply.

Support	What it offers	Best for
Start Your Own Business	Practical training covering business planning, market research, finance, legal basics and marketing. A solid foundation for anyone in the early stages of starting out.	<i>Pre-start / early stage</i>
Feasibility Grant	Funding of up to €15,000 to research a new business idea, product or market opportunity before committing fully.	<i>Pre-start</i>
Priming Grant	Financial support for new businesses (trading less than 18 months) towards start-up costs including capital investment, staffing and marketing.	<i>Start-up (under 18 months)</i>
Business Expansion Grant	Supports established businesses to expand — covering capital investment, new equipment, staffing or other growth-related costs.	<i>Established / scaling</i>

<i>Support</i>	<i>What it offers</i>	<i>Best for</i>
Microfinance Loans	Loans of €2,000–€25,000 for businesses that cannot access standard bank credit. Offered through Microfinance Ireland at competitive rates.	<i>Any stage</i>
Market Explorer Grant	Up to €5,000 to research and develop new export markets, including costs for attending overseas trade events.	<i>Established / export-ready</i>
GetExporting	Free tools, advice and resources to help businesses begin or grow their export activity, including connections to international buyers.	<i>Any stage</i>
Energy Efficiency Grant	Up to €5,000 to invest in energy-efficient equipment or upgrade existing systems to reduce running costs.	<i>Established</i>
Food Academy & Food Supports	Specialist support for food producers: product development, food safety, and pathways into major retailers through the Food Academy programme.	<i>Food businesses</i>
GradStart	Subsidises the cost of hiring recent graduates — up to two per business — to support growth, innovation and skills development.	<i>Established</i>
R&D & Innovation Support	Funding and expert advice for businesses developing new products, services or processes. Includes access to research networks.	<i>Established</i>
National Enterprise Hub	A free expert helpline connecting SME owners with specialist advisors across business, finance, legal, HR and more.	<i>Any stage</i>

Not sure which support is right for you?

We're happy to have a no-obligation conversation and point you in the right direction.

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