

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Established in 1975, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP) is Europe's leading programme helping businesses to improve their competitiveness and productivity through the better use of knowledge and technology.

A KTP involves the formation of a partnership between your business and the University of Kent, enabling you to access skills and world leading academic research and expertise to help your company develop a strategic business opportunity, idea or innovation. Each partnership employs a recently qualified graduate or postgraduate who is based full time within your company to deliver the project.

How does it work?

With the help of dedicated KTP staff within the University of Kent we will identify an academic team with the appropriate expertise for your business. The team will then work with you to define and agree a project based on your requirements. The project could be for any length between one and three years with the overall aim of helping your business make a step change in an area that you have identified as high priority.

Before the project is launched, the company and academic team work together to recruit a suitable graduate or postgraduate, the Associate, to deliver the project. The Associate is employed by the University of Kent but works full time within your business to manage and drive the project. We understand that it is essential to recruit an individual who will be a good fit within your existing team whilst having the right expertise and skills. The Associate is jointly supervised by a senior member or your business and one of the academic specialists.

The University of Kent academics are key to the delivery of the project providing essential expertise whilst jointly supervising the Associate and working in partnership with key members of staff within your business. The academics spend the equivalent of at least half a day a week supporting the project.



Why choose a KTP?

- Over the years the KTP Programme has supported over 13 thousand partnerships that have linked forwardthinking businesses with the UK's world-class knowledge bases to deliver innovation projects led by talented graduates. This has delivered an 800% return on investment
- An average of 328 jobs are created for Associates per annum
- Over 60% of Associates are offered permanent employment at the end of their projects

What will it cost?

Significant funding is available through Innovate UK to support the delivery of KTP projects whether your business is a large corporation or an SME. A typical KTP project is less than the average cost of recruiting a suitable graduate therefore making this a highly competitive option for delivering a strategic project. Small or medium-sized businesses can access funding of up to 67% of the project costs; larger businesses up to 50%.







My KTP experience

"The energy consumption business is forever changing, especially in the realms of software design and development and



ZTP is always looking to move our ideas and services forward. We were excited to be able to take on this opportunity to collaborate with The University of Kent and bring key knowledge and experience into the team. This was our first experience with a KTP and I would recommend it to any company looking to drive innovation. Working with the University of Kent has aided us in the expansion into a number of global markets leading to the ability to support clients internationally."

Alex Hill Managing Director of ZTP UK



