

## ***Birmingham Post Growth Fund***

### *grants for business expansion*

The Birmingham Post Growth Fund is an investment fund, financed by the Department for Business Innovation & Skills, through their Regional Growth Fund initiative. The Birmingham Post, in partnership with Bournville College, successfully secured £5 million to invest in small and medium sized businesses to enable them to create a minimum of 250 new, long term jobs and assist businesses develop the skills to maximise any investment. The partnership with the Birmingham Post combines the College's role in supporting innovation and enterprise through its business growth programmes with the marketing and advertising reach and power of a regional media heavyweight.

The fund is also open to new businesses and start-ups and aims to enable budding entrepreneurs to get their business idea off the ground with a cash, marketing and training injection to develop their business ideas with a view to creating permanent jobs and a strong, viable business.

#### *About the fund:*

- Business Growth Fund
- Grants £10,000 - £100,000
- Match investment by organisation
- Birmingham, Solihull and Coventry areas
- Essential elements: growth plan, recruitment, training, marketing

#### *Eligibility criteria:*

- Enterprises under 250 employees (SMEs)
- Not received EUR 200,000 in last 3 years
- Creating jobs in next 12 months
- Refused loan / credit

#### *More information:*

1. You can apply to the fund through [www.thebusinesssupportnetwork.co.uk](http://www.thebusinesssupportnetwork.co.uk)
2. More information about the fund and what it can and cannot be used for as well as details about how it all works including an overview, about the application process, about Bournville College's application workshops, and the fund FAQs can be found on the Bournville College website <http://www.bournville.ac.uk/employers/business-growth-fund/>