Small-to-Medium Enterprise (SME) support

We know that the financial cost of generating the new ideas, technologies and processes to help you achieve competitive advantage can be high. The University of Birmingham can help you in the following ways.

Accelerating Business-Knowledge Base Innovation Activity (ABIA)

The **ABIA Project (/partners/sme-support/accelerating-business-knowledge.aspx)** is a European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funded initiative established to underpin growth amongst SMEs operating in the science and technology sectors in the West Midlands.

Access to state-of-the-art equipment, testing and analysis

Utilise our state-of-the-art scientific equipment or train members of your team on a particular technique. Our researchers are on hand to offer technical support, problem solving and help with product development. **Contact us (mailto:businessteam@bham.ac.uk)** for more information.

In addition we are partners of the 'M5 Universities group', which provides an **equipment search (http://www.m5universities.ac.uk/facilities/)** facility for participating universities across the region.

Business accommodation

If you are looking for office space to house your organisation, **Birmingham Research Park (http://www.birminghamresearchpark.co.uk/)** on the University campus offers purpose built accommodation for companies seeking to work in research, development and training.

BizzInn (http://www.bizzinn.org/), also located at Birmingham Research Park. is a business incubator specifically tailored for entrepreneurs, start-ups and academics to help drive forward ideas and transform innovation to enterprise.

Funding opportunities

We can help you to navigate your way through the **funding opportunities (/partners/partner-with-us/funding-support.aspx)** that may be available for your organisation and find you a suitable academic partner to work with.

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP)

Enter a three-way **Knowledge Transfer Partnership (/partners/partner-with-us/ktp.aspx)** with the University of Birmingham and a high quality graduate to work on a project for a period of between six months and three years.

Recruiting our students to work for you

Many of our students have gained practical experience with SMEs during their time studying here and as a result have gained a genuine interest and desire to **work within SMEs full time (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/partners/employers/services/smes-info.aspx)**.

University of Birmingham Business Club

The **University of Birmingham Business Club (/partners/sme-support/birmingham-business-club.aspx)** is a networking club for business people looking to network with other companies and members of the academic team at the University.

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