

One Step Ahead

Training improves staff performance, making a business more productive and competitive. Training Scotland's employees is an essential component in maintaining its competitive edge.



Training in Scotland became easier this year when four leading training and skills organisations came together under one banner – Skills Development Scotland – with a shared vision to improve Scotland's skills performance.

Why train?

Companies must keep abreast of industry changes, technological advances and new legislation to retain an edge over competitors. Learndirect Scotland for Business, now part of Skills Development Scotland, aims to enhance the competitiveness of Scotland's small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) by guiding them through the maze of training opportunities.

Nationally recognised training, continually reviewed and updated by industry and training experts, keeps businesses up-to-date with the latest industry and marketplace developments. A team of training partners, all experienced business advisers, can discuss training priorities and help identify learning solutions to meet specific needs.

Businesses can gain access to:

- Expert advisers who help assess skills needs and identify training solutions
- Training to meet business goals and pressures, with an emphasis on short 'bite-size' chunks
- Online workplace training that reduces staff absence time
- A wide range of free resources.

Learndirect Scotland collates the widest-ever range of course information, including private training providers, colleges, universities and hundreds of new online courses. Businesses also have access to more than 500 Learndirect Scotland learning centres (see case study on page 103).

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