

What is Investment in Young People (IiYP)?

IiYP is a National Award that recognises the important work that employers do in supporting a young person's understanding of the world of work and helping them to gain the all important employability skills required to gain meaningful employment in the future. The scheme is aimed at recognising an employer's contribution to assist young people aged from 5 to 25 to achieve this.

IiYP has been developed and is managed by Investment in Young People UK, a social enterprise, in conjunction with a range of education business partnership organisations (EBPO's) from across the country, many of which will act as 'local agents' for IiYP and will carry out the on-site verification visits prior to the approval of the IiYP Award.

The Award is held by the business for a 3 year period, and is open to all small, medium and large employers who commit staff time to work with their local schools, colleges, youth clubs and universities and can demonstrate their support in assisting the transition of young people from education into employment.

There is no specific requirement for what this support can or needs to be but the following is a list of possible activity:

- Careers events
- Apprenticeships (linked to FE College/external training provider provision)
- Work Experience placements (structured longer term activity)
- Work Taster events (short term placements at/visits to employer premises)
- Support for academic studies – i.e. help with BTEC courses etc.
- School-led enterprise activity
- Young Chamber activity
- Young Enterprise
- Supporting Studio Schools
- Supporting Academies
- Student Mentoring

The above are examples only, employers are free to provide evidence of other suitable activity.

Employers do not need to offer support in all of these areas nor for a fixed time, however to gain the Award they will need to show that they have a minimum overall level of engagement. They will also need to provide confirmation from the educational establishment who will be asked to endorse the businesses application for the Award by certifying that the employer has carried out the stated activity.

Why you should sign up for liYP

There continues to be a lot of negative publicity surrounding the issue of young people being effectively prepared for the world of work upon leaving education. Whilst many would agree that more can be done to improve this, there is considerable existing effort being committed by local employers to support and enhance this transition of young people into employment, which has by and large to date, not been fully recognised.

Being recognised as an Investment in Young People company is very important, as your company has committed in a number of ways to work with, and support the development of the country's young people assisting them to develop their 'employability skills' and understanding of work.

Recognition of your company through this award informs your local community that your company has expended a considerable amount of time and effort to help young people in your community prepare for their future careers and employment.

What do I need to do to obtain liYP?

Firstly you need to register your interest online and complete the Application Form found at www.iyp.co.uk.

Within 10 days of submitting your completed application you will be contacted by your local delivery agent to arrange a short on-site visit to verify your application. At the same time the local agent will make contact with the educational establishment listed in the application to arrange a telephone interview or to meet to confirm the educational establishments endorsement of the business application. The onsite verification visit to the applicant should take no more than 2-3 hours and is designed to allow the liYP local agent to see any documents listed in the application and to briefly talk to staff involved in the school engagement. A pre-visit 'check list' will be provided to the applicant prior to the visit taking place.

Upon successful verification and payment of the appropriate registration fee, your Award will be confirmed and issued.

The Award is granted for a 3 year period. At the end of year 3 a new application for the liYP Award will be required and a further onsite verification visit will then take place. If the Award is reconfirmed, the above cycle will be repeated.

What do I get when liYP has been achieved?

Upon achievement of the Investment in Young People Award each employer will receive:

- an Investment in Young People Certificate
- an electronic copy of the Investment in Young People Award logo for use on company letterheads, websites, publicity and marketing materials
- entry onto the liYP Awards Register which is available to publicly view on the www.iiyp.co.uk/liYP website
- a window sticker

Benefits of liYP to your company will be the demonstration to customers and the wider community of your commitment to investing in young people within your community to gain the important employability skills which will assist them in successfully transferring from education into employment.

What is the cost of liYP?

There is a small registration and administration fee for the Award. The fee is charged for the administration of the scheme and covers each employer for a 3 year period.

The maximum fee charged for a small business will be £375 + vat, for a small to medium sized business £750 + vat and for a large business £2,500 + vat. This covers the 3 year period of recognition.

Size of business is based on turnover:

- Small (up to £5m)
- Medium (£5m +)
- Large (£50m +)

Public sector bodies who are interested in gaining the liYP Award will be charged £750 + vat.

Voluntary sector organisations will be charged £375 + vat.