Skillset Sector Compact - Key Facts

1. What is included in the new offer for employers through the Train to Gain sector compact?

The support through Train to Gain already enables employers in the sector to access advice on skills and on the Skills Pledge. Train to Gain also offers funding support for a range of vocational skills and qualifications for individuals working employers of all sizes including:

- First vocational qualification at full Level 2, Level 3 and Level 4 qualifications
- Apprenticeships for all ages,
- Skills for Life qualifications e.g. literacy, numeracy and language (ESOL)
- Train to Gain also provides support for Leadership and Management skills in companies employing over five and less than 250 employees
- Units of training in business critical areas for SMEs

In addition to the support already available through Train to Gain, the compact gives special flexibility for key vocational qualifications to be available for the first time through Train to Gain as repeat qualifications – i.e. employees who have already achieved a full Level 2 or 3 qualification can now be supported to achieve a second full Level 2 or 3 qualification.

This flexibility is focussed on the most important qualifications to the sector, including NVQs in Photo Imaging, Games Testing, Grips, Stagehands, Digital Print Production. A list of these qualifications can be found on the LSC website at http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/ttg/latest/

Vocational Qualifications developed by any awarding body, providing that these are available for funding purposes can be supported through Train to Gain.

2. Which companies are eligible for advice and support through Train to Gain?

All companies based in England are eligible for support through Train to Gain except for some organisations in the public sector. This compact adds the additional elements set out in section 1 above into Train to Gain for companies in the following sectors; Film, TV, Radio, Interactive Media, Facilities, Photo Imaging, Publishing, Computer Games and Animation.

Funding for skills and qualifications relates to individual employees in these companies – some employees may be eligible for funding support but some may not. Both the skills brokers and colleges and training providers can advise on eligibility for funding support as part of the Train to Gain service.

The compact also enables additional employers and learners to access train to gain for the first time. The Creative Media sector includes many small companies run by
and employing those who have studied to a high level but not received vocational training to boost their employability.

3. **When will the new offer in Train to Gain be available for employers?**

The new offer to employers in the sector was announced on 24th October and will be available for employers via skills brokers, colleges and training providers from April 2009. Each compact covers a period of up to three years and will be an integral part of the Train to Gain offer to employers.

4. **How can employers access the support from Train to Gain including funding for skills?**

Employers can access support through Train to Gain from two key sources:

By contacting a skills broker or specialist L&M advisor, who will visit and start the process of analysing how their company’s performance can benefit from investment in employee skills. Skillset will also make sure that brokers are briefed about the nature of its sub sectors and will make clear through its website how employers can access Train to Gain support alongside other industry activities they may find useful.

For advice on training and development and on qualifications available to employers through Train to Gain, employers can also talk to colleges and training providers.

5. **How much money is available?**

The LSC have identified £11m to support the objectives of the compact over three years from within the current Train to Gain budget. The amount of funding in the compact relates directly to the level of demand predicted from employers by Skillset so if this demand does not materialise from employers over the life of the compact, this funding will not be available for employers in this sector.

**For Further Information**

Information via the LSC can be found at: [www.lsc.gov.uk](http://www.lsc.gov.uk)
Information via Skillset can be found at: [www.skillset.org](http://www.skillset.org)

For additional information please contact:

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