

Regional investment grant

Are you going to start a new business or does your business need to invest? Then perhaps a regional investment grant can partially finance your investments.

A regional investment grant is one type of regional business support aiming at increased growth and balanced regional development. On this fact sheet Nutek gives overall information about the grant.

Conditions in brief

Grants can be awarded for investments in, for example, buildings and machinery, education and consulting services.

To be eligible for a regional investment grant the business must operate in support areas A or B. The support areas comprise almost all of Norrland and certain parts of the counties of Dalarna, Värmland, Örebro, Västmanland, Kalmar and Western Götaland. Detailed information on this is given at Nutek's website: www.nutek.se. In parts of the support areas the possibility of getting a regional investment grant is limited. See below the business must be engaged in such activity as is listed to the right the activity must be judged to lead to growth and increased employment. The grant must be judged to be necessary for the investment to be accomplished. It is not possible to get both a regional investment grant and an employment grant for the same investment.

Limitations for certain areas

In the following parts of support area A a grant can only be awarded in connection with large investments that are judged to be of strategic importance:

- Östersund Municipality, except the parishes of Näs and Häggenäs.
- Krokom Municipality, except the parishes of Näskott, Laxsjö, Föllinge, Hotagen, Offerdal and Alsen.

In support area B a grant can only be awarded if there are specific reasons for it and if the investment is judged to be of strategic importance or especially important to regional development. A further requirement is that loans should be judged as insufficient to supply the capital needed.

These limitations do not apply to grants for construction and rebuilding of premises to let and for new investments in buildings that are judged to be of strategic importance.

In the following parts of support area B a grant can only be awarded in connection with **large** investments:

- Sundsvall Municipality, except the parishes of Holmand Liden, which belong to support area A.
- Timrå, Vännäs, Umeå and Luleå Municipalities.
- Boden Municipality, except the parishes of Edefors and Gunnarsbyn, which belong to support area A.
- The Sundsvall, Umeå and Luleå urban areas are not support areas.

Activities entitled to support

Regional investment grants can be awarded for the following activities:

- industry and industry-like activity
- industrial service activity
- service activity that is aimed at a larger market than one that is exclusively local or regional
- tourism activity
- construction of premises to let
- other activity that is considered to be of special importance to regional development.

Grant size

In order to determine the size of the grant, all applications will undergo an individual assessment with due consideration of the importance of the investment to society, growth and increased employment. Also considered are the type and cost of the investment, the type of business and the support area in which the business operates. See table overleaf. A basic principle is that nobody should get more support than what is required for the investment to be accomplished.

Application and disbursement

The application must be approved *before* the investment starts. However, permission to start can be given before approval after special assessment. The application has to be submitted to the County Administrative Board for activity in support area A. If Nutek is to handle the application, the County Administrative Board will send it to Nutek. For support area B the application should be submitted directly to Nutek, with one exception. In Western Götaland it is instead submitted to the Western Götaland Region. An investment should normally be completed within two years after decision. Disbursement takes place in arrears, sometimes, in case of large amounts, on several occasions.

The small print

There are several requirements. Some examples:

- To premises different rules apply depending for example on use and community size.
- The work environment must be satisfactory and employment conditions must be at least equal to those of a relevant collective agreement.
- In handling matters concerning regional investment grants special attention must be

paid to whether the intended investment will give both women and men job opportunities.

- The company shall fulfil the requirements for active measures according to the Gender Equality Act, sections 3-13 (Jämställdhetslagen 1991:433) and the Act (1999:130), sections 4-7, on measures against working life discrimination due to ethnicity, religion or other faith.
- The whole or parts of the grant can be reclaimed if, for example, the activity is terminated.
- The company shall have a chartered or registered accountant.

More information ...

... is obtainable from the County Administrative Board, the Western Götaland Region, or Nutek. You are welcome to contact someone personally before you submit your application.

Maximum financing share

The table shows *maximum* support as a percentage of an approved investment, by type of investment and enterprise. Support is usually given at lower levels.

Type of investment, purpose	Small enterprises*	Medium-sized enterprises*	Large enterprises & Groups*
Machinery, equipment, buildings etc. and intangible investments, for example patents and licenses	Supp.area A 35 % Supp.area B 30 %	Supp.area A 25 % Supp.area B 20 %	Supp.area A 15 % Supp.area B 10 %
Premises to let	Supp.area A 25 %	Supp.area B 20%	
Consulting services, participation in certain fairs and exhibitions	50 %	50 %	0 %
Special education 1)	40 %	40 %	30 %
Precompetitive development 2)	40 %	40 %	0 %

* Small enterprises are defined as having fewer than 50 employees and small and medium-sized enterprises as having fewer than 250 employees. Other definition figures indicate, for example, maximum turnover and balance sheet total. The small and medium-sized enterprises must be independent or less than 25% owned by larger enterprises or groups.

- 1) Great restrictiveness must be observed since education is often supported by the Employment Service.
- 2) Great restrictiveness must be observed since development is often supported by authorities/bodies other than Nutek. No support is given for product development that can be described as current development.



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