

FoodWorks reveals tasty accelerator for food start-ups

[FoodWorks](#), the collaborative collaborative tri-agency initiative run by **Bord Bia, Enterprise Ireland and Teagasc** is now in its 10th year.

Ten food and drink start-ups chosen for the latest FoodWorks accelerator could land grant grant funding of up to €35,000.

Food Works, the collaborative tri-agency initiative run by Bord Bia, Enterprise Ireland and Teagasc, is looking for ten high potential, innovative and export driven food and drink start-ups to join their next accelerator programme.

Fiid, The Lismore Food Company and Nobó, some of Ireland's rising stars, are among over 100 companies that have already completed the programme since it began in 2012 with €4.6m given in grants.

Taste for success

The food and drink entrepreneurship programme runs annually over 10 months from March to December.

It includes workshops with national and international industry experts across various disciplines such as strategy, finance, product development, marketing and other areas.

Start-ups also receive customised support from business advisors, facilitated peer-to-peer learning and networking opportunities across the industry - at home and abroad.

“Food Works has been feeding ambition and innovation among Ireland’s food and drink entrepreneurs for almost 10 years, with proven success in supporting Irish start-ups to succeed,” said Tara McCarthy, CEO of Bord Bia.

“The programme aims to support and assist rising stars to achieve their ambitions in domestic and international markets, all the time working toward enhancing the global positioning of Ireland’s food and drink sector.

“Irish food products are enjoying a growing reputation internationally coupled with strong demand. Last year, despite significant disruption to normal market operation, Irish food, drink, and horticulture exports were valued at over €13bn,” she added.

Brian & Rachel Nolan, founders of Nobó, the popular dairy free ice-cream and chocolate brand,

credit the programme with their early acceleration and direction.

“Food Works has been a vital part of our success, helping to set us up for growth,” said Brian Nolan. “Our unique dairy free ice cream was a new concept, and the support and expertise we received from Food Works was a key factor in helping us take it from local farmers markets to supermarket shelves at home and abroad. Our ice cream and chocolate are now available in over 750 stores, across Ireland, Netherlands, and Canada, where we will also launch into Wholefoods this September.”

The closing date for applications for the 2022 programme is 3 December 2021. Full details and an application form are available at FoodWorksIreland.ie