

# Loans for Women Entrepreneurs

– for establishing and developing businesses owned and managed by women

The loan for women entrepreneurs is intended for enterprises where women are majority shareholders and which are managed by women. It can be an existing or a completely new business, as long as it does not employ more than five persons. The loans are used for investments in machinery and equipment, as working capital, for other start-up or expansion projects, or for business development.

We can provide financing for enterprise activities in almost every sector; only farming, forestry and building developer's business remain outside our range of financing.

A loan for women entrepreneurs can be granted to all forms of enterprises, and can be supplemented with a start-up grant from the Ministry of Labour. Other Finnvera funding is also possible.

A loan for women entrepreneurs can be granted in one or more amounts up to a maximum of 35,000 euro.

**A loan for women entrepreneurs can be granted for different kinds of enterprises that meet the following criteria:**

- A private self-employed entrepreneur is a woman.
- In a general partnership, at least half the partners are women and half the initial investment was put up by women.
- In a limited partnership, at least half the responsible partners are women and over half of the responsible partners' initial investment was put up by women.
- In a limited liability company, over 50% of the shares and the related votes are held by women.
- One of the women owners must manage the enterprise full-time.

An application for financing is processed more quickly if you have a business plan. Help for drawing up a business plan is available at regional enterprise services.

- Are you thinking of setting up your own business or expanding one that already exists?
- A Finnvera Loan for Women Entrepreneurs could be the answer to your financing needs.

## How do we assess your company?

Our financing decisions are preceded by an analysis of the enterprise's market potential. We assess the enterprise's goals, development plans and market situation, and especially the local competition. We also assess the total financing that the enterprise's business requires, as well as the adequacy of the enterprise's own share of the financing.

We expect that the business operations are profitable and that the entrepreneur's own finances are in order.

## Terms and conditions of the loan

**Loan amount:** 3,000 – 35,000 euro.

**Interest rate:** The 6-month euribor and margin. The interest charged incorporates government interest subsidy.

**Loan period:** 5 years.

**Security:** The holders of a business name, the partners in a general partnership and the responsible partners in a limited partnership are personally responsible for the loan. The share-holders of a limited liability company are expected to give absolute general guarantees as security for the loan. The maximum total security equals the loan sum. Other possible forms of security can be negotiated on a case by case basis.

**Handling fee:** a handling fee is charged on the loan.

## Application procedure

You can fill in a loan application safely and reliably on Finnvera's website: [www.finnvera.fi](http://www.finnvera.fi) > Online Services.

## Finnvera acts as an agent for EU financing

Finnvera channels interest subsidies of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) to investment and working capital loans, loans for women entrepreneurs, microloans, entrepreneur loans and environmental loans. In addition, guarantee fee subsidies of the ERDF are channelled to guarantees of investment and working capital loans. ERDF financing covers the major regions of Eastern Finland and Northern Finland in their entirety. In Southern Finland and Western Finland, ERDF financing is allocated to the most challenging areas.

## Public consulting services for enterprises, entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial hopefuls

On the joint website of public enterprise services ([www.enterprise-finland.fi](http://www.enterprise-finland.fi)), you can receive expert information and advice on starting a business, entrepreneurship, and the development of your enterprise.

Starting enterprises get assistance for drawing up a business plan and for preparing a financing application from regional enterprise services (including the Enterprise Agencies of Jobs and Society). Often they give their comment on a starting enterprise's application, which Finnvera can use in its decision-making.

- You can apply for Finnvera's financing, loans and guarantees online at [www.finnvera.fi](http://www.finnvera.fi) - Online Services.
- Telephone Service 029 460 2582 – advice on financing and on how to fill in applications.

### Finnvera plc

Switchboard 029 460 11  
[www.finnvera.fi](http://www.finnvera.fi)

### Regional Offices

Helsinki, Joensuu, Jyväskylä,  
Kajaani, Kuopio, Lahti,  
Lappeenranta, Mikkeli, Oulu,  
Pori, Rovaniemi, Seinäjoki,  
Tampere, Turku, Vaasa

[www.enterprise-finland.fi](http://www.enterprise-finland.fi)