



Call for Tenders (CFT) for provision of
Training Services to the
MIDAS Electronic Systems Skillnet

<https://midasireland.ie/skillnet/>

The MIDAS Electronic Systems Skillnet is an activity of MIDAS Ireland funded by member companies and the Training Programmes of Skillnet Ireland, which are funded from the National Training Fund through the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science.

1. Introduction

This CFT is published to invite suitably qualified higher education institutions (HEI) or commercial training providers to make proposals for the delivery of training courses as described in this request for tender document. The objective of this CFT and the aim of all our training courses is to upskill engineers engaged in full time employment in the Irish electronics industry so as to improve their productivity.

2. Background

MIDAS is an industry led cluster consisting of industry, educational, research and government agencies, working together to develop the microelectronics and electronic systems sector in Ireland. MIDAS' aim is to represent the entire value chain, as the industry evolves to deliver combined electronic and software system solutions.

The **MIDAS Electronic Systems Skillnet** is a collaboration between Semiconductor & Electronic Systems companies based in Ireland to meet their mutual needs of best-in-class cost effective training courses held locally for skilled employees in this sector.

3. Scope of the services to be provided

The aim is to contract with a single provider to deliver the training courses as specified. If two training providers each achieve equal total points score, the awarded courses may be split between them according to which proposed dates work best for the Skillnet. The course participants will be sourced by the MIDAS Electronic Systems Skillnet. Unless otherwise specified below, the Skillnet will provide a suitable training room and catering for onsite courses. Training requirement details are contained in Appendix 1.

4. Areas to be covered in the CFT

A training provider submitting a tender under this CFT must include the following:

1. **Contact person:** The name, email and telephone number of the key contact person.
2. **Company:** name, address and a brief company overview (not a brochure or slides)
3. **Outline of the proposed course structure and content**
This need not be in detail at the tender stage but should specify the core areas that will be covered. Delivery methods: e.g. lecture, number of labs / ratio of training time on labs versus lecture (if applicable), any online or other supports (e.g. software for labs if applicable)
4. **Trainer Profile and previous experience in delivering related or similar programmes.**
Please provide some details of qualifications and relevant training experience of the proposed trainer. Prior training customer or participant testimonials are useful.
5. **Proposed Costs:**
Note: proposed costs must include all fees, e.g. for online courses: travel, accommodation, or for live online courses: hosting platform, postage, administration, course materials, course accreditation and any other costs including VAT if applicable. In general, we will provide the venue and cover all

hosting and catering costs for onsite courses, but if desired, a training organisation may provide an optional additional quote if that training provider wished to offer a training facility and catering as an add-on option.

6. **Recommended Maximum no. of participants:** Please specify the maximum permitted number of attendees. Also from experience, a training provider may indicate a (smaller) preferred number of participants they recommend to avoid compromising the quality of training experience for participants.

The tender submission document should not exceed 12 pages, **documents in excess of 12 pages may disqualify the tender.**

5. Assessment of Proposals

The contract will be awarded from qualifying tenders on the basis of the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT), using the following criteria:

Criteria	Maximum Score Available	
Relative Cost versus other tenders*	200	20%
Quality** of training content outlines, delivery & trainer expertise	600	60%
Availability of trainer & Flexibility*** to tailor course	200	20%
Total Maximum Score Available	1000	100%

*Relative Cost Formula = Maximum Score x (Lowest cost tender / Cost of tender in question)

** Quality will be assessed based on the proposed outline, delivery methods, prior experience of trainer and any references available

*** Availability & Flexibility will be assessed based on possible proposed dates & flexibility to customize the course to the Skillnet's needs

A minimum total points score of at least 750 points is required for a tender award. If no tenders achieve this score the tender will not be awarded to any tender provider.

6. Closing Date

Proposals must be submitted to the Government E-Tenders Tenderbox by the deadline, as posted on the etenders portal with this CFT.

7. Method of Submitting Tenders

The E-Tenders Tenderbox is the only method for tender submission as this provides a secure and transparent device for opening of all tenders simultaneously at the designated time. Any tender submitted by any other means will be automatically invalidated and cannot be considered.

MIDAS Electronic Systems Skillnet has no authority and is not responsible for any failure of the E-Tenders Tenderbox system and will not take any queries relating to same. Should any tenderer have difficulty using the system or submitting a tender they should contact the E-Tenders site directly at irish-eproc-helpdesk@eurodyn.com or on 0818001459 during office hours in Ireland.

8. Queries and Information Concerning this CFT

The sole point of contact in relation to this CFT is via the Questions and Answers facility provided by the E-Tenders site. All those who register an interest in this tender will be given information concerning how to post queries. By using this facility the answers to all queries will automatically be copied to all those who have expressed interest

providing for a transparent and fair tendering process. Any material queries received by any other means will not be replied to.

9. General Conditions

9.1. The lowest cost proposal received is not a guarantee of award of contract. The contract will be awarded to the most economically advantageous tender, taking into account criteria linked to the subject matter and content of the programme, the quality and technical merit of the programme proposed, the use of flexible learning approaches, track record of course delivery to similar audiences, and overall suitability and previous experience of the trainers.

9.2. It will be a condition of appointment that the training provider appointed be able to produce a valid Tax Clearance Certificate.

9.3. Payment for services covered by the proposed contract will be on foot of appropriate invoices, which will be based on agreed deliverables. Invoicing arrangements will be agreed with the successful tenderer, following the award of contract.

9.4. The training provider will be subject to the same reporting, accounting, administrative and other requirements imposed on the MIDAS Electronic Systems Skillnet by Skillnet Ireland and will be required to comply with these to the fullest extent.

9.5 MIDAS Electronic Systems Skillnet reserves the right to cancel and / or re run this tender competition at any time and to vary the number of courses run depending on budget and training demand considerations.

9.6 Conflicts-of-Interest. Tenderers must disclose any potential conflicts-of-interest in their tender to MIDAS Electronic Systems Skillnet. Failure to disclose a conflict-of-interest may disqualify a bidder or invalidate an award of contract, depending on when the conflict-of-interest comes to light.

9.7 Insurance Cover. Tenderers must have appropriate insurance cover (€5M Public liability cover and €1M professional indemnity as a minimum) and be able to submit insurance details if/when required.

9.8 MIDAS Electronic Systems Skillnet will not be liable in respect of any costs incurred by consultants in the preparation of tenders, or any associated work effort.

10. Confidentiality of Evaluation

After the closing date for the receipt of tenders, information relating to the examination, clarification, and evaluation of tenders and recommendations concerning the award of contract will not be disclosed to tenderers or other persons not officially concerned with the process. In the interest of fairness and confidentiality the only feedback to be provided to tenderers as to the relative performance of their tender will be notification, on request, of the total assessment score they achieved.

Appendix 1

MIDAS Electronic Systems Skillnet Preliminary Scope for an Advanced Analog IC Design Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Module

1. Target Participants

The CPD module will be delivered to an industry audience engaged in full time employment in MIDAS member companies. All participants should be experienced R&D engineers with 2+ years experience in analog / mixed-signal IC design and have a minimum of a level 8 Bachelors degree qualification in Electronic Engineering or have equivalent industry experience for recognition of prior learning.

2. Training Course Details

A live online part time training course of 12 weeks duration is required:

Advanced Analog IC Design CPD Module including theory, practicals / assignments & assessment with assessment and certification. A timeline guide is for about 12 weeks duration with up to 10 hours per week, comprising 2 to 4 hours of tuition (lectures/ labs/ tutorials) and up to 7 hours of assignments / project work / self-directed learning per week.

Certification: If the course is delivered by a HEI, the course should be certified at an appropriate level on the National Framework for Qualifications (NFQ) and should result in a Special Purpose Award or Minor Award ideally at postgraduate level. Alternatively, a commercial training provider should use a recognised industry body certificate and/or a relevant QQI award. Please state NFQ level and no. of ECTS credits which would apply, if applicable. Certificates must be provided to those passing the course. Pass / fail results for each trainee must also be provided to MIDAS Skillnet, a requirement of our grant conditions. A training agreement and Data Protection Agreement must be entered into by the successful training provider.

Please submit a proposed course outline of your proposal of advanced analog IC design topics most relevant to designers with 2+ years experience in analog IC design, similar to the following list (must not match exactly - please feel free to propose your own suggestions for topics):

Advanced Analog Design Techniques

Data Converter Fundamentals, ADC/DAC metrics, with exercises on SAR ADC design and related sub-topics

Active RC Filter design

Signal & Noise Analysis

Clocking and power regulators for analog blocks and related design issues.

The CPD Module should have a focus on applying the theory via labs/ assignments / project work and tutorials. Please outline the practicals / assignments to be included.

Delivery should be 100% online or hybrid with 1 or 2 days in-person in Ireland, e.g. for a final exam. Assessment can be continuous with or without a final exam. An exam, if proposed, could be held online or else in-person in Ireland.

Please include quoted costs and divide the costs into two separate deliverables, with separated costs:

A) **Course Development** costs. The course lecture materials, tutorials and assignments should be developed in 2026 and first half of 2027. Please propose about 4 deliverable milestones to review stages of the course development with a committee of member company experts.

B) **Pilot Course delivery** costs. It is preferred to hold the pilot course over 12 weeks in September to December 2027. Please propose start and finish dates including any final assessment / project submission dates, which could be facilitated.

Separate Purchase Orders (POs) will be issued to confirm proceeding with A) Course Development and B) Pilot Course delivery. If a PO is issued for A), it does not imply that a PO will be issued for B), since a PO for B) is contingent on grant and member company funding and on sufficient places being booked to make it viable to run.

Due to strong interest from electronics systems design companies in Ireland, it is likely that classes could be filled with up to 20 (or 22) attendees if permitted and rerun annually. Please indicate your **maximum permitted number of attendees** and if different, the **recommended number of attendees** for an improved training experience.

Re-runs of the course may be required at a later date within 24 months of the pilot course delivery, contingent on both demand and available budget, which are not guaranteed. This may be extended to 36 months by mutual agreement. Please include a quote per re-run as an optional extra item. If demand and budget allow the Skillnet to proceed with this option later, once mutually acceptable dates have been agreed, a separate Purchase Order would be issued per re-run to confirm exercising this option for each re-run of the course.

Please include in the tender a proposed detailed course outline, details of labs / assignments, how participants will be assessed, the assessment pass percentage rate and what % of marks will be awarded to each lab, assignment, project, quiz or exam (if proposed). Please include relevant work and training experience on this topic of the proposed trainer(s). Please state if course materials or lab kits are required and if they will be provided to attendees and include any related costs. Please include any course materials printing and delivery costs (if applicable) in the quoted price. Any additional costs which are not included in the tender can not be considered later, so please include any costs, including VAT (if applicable) or other optional extra costs, in the tender.