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 Analog Test and Measurement CPD Module

1. Target Participants

The Analog Test and Measurement CPD (Continuous Professional Development) module will be delivered to an industry audience engaged in full time employment in MIDAS member companies. Participants will be IC (Integrated Circuit) Test / evaluation / application engineers, wishing to accelerate their learning in this area of expertise, with a minimum level 8 degree in electronic engineering, or possibly equivalent industry experience (to be adjudicated by the training provider).

2. Training Course Details

A live online (or hybrid) part time training course of 12 – 16 weeks duration is required:
Analog / Mixed Signal Test and Measurement CPD Module including assignments and assessment exam, comprising of lectures / tutorials / labs and / or individual project work each week (please provide a breakdown of hours for each activity per week), leading to a level 9 award of certified credits. The desired course content should be comprised of the training provider's proposals as to the technical topics a recent test engineering entrant to a IC design company would need to add to his/her skill sets. A maximum of 2 days in-person training / examination at a well-connected city in the Republic of Ireland should be adhered to if hybrid delivery is proposed.
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 in Digital Design ideally at postgraduate level. Alternatively, a commercial training provider should use a recognised company 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.
Please submit a proposed course outline, which should include the list of course topics and practical assignments included in the training course facilitating doing assignments remotely, possibly from home.
It is preferred to hold the course over 12 to 16 weeks in **Jan to May 2027**. Please propose at least one option for start and finish dates including assessment dates which could be facilitated. Due to strong interest from IC design companies in Ireland, it is likely that classes could be filled with up to 20 or 22 attendees if permitted. 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 requested at a later date, contingent on both demand for places and available budget, which are not guaranteed. The initial reward is for one class only, in 2027. This can only be extended to 2028 (to facilitate possible requests for reruns), subject to mutual agreement of both parties. 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, then if both parties agree to proceed and mutually acceptable dates have been agreed, a separate Purchase Order would be issued per re-run to confirm exercising this option for one or more re-runs of the course. The successful training provider would need to enter into a training agreement and a Data Protection Agreement with MIDAS Ireland.

Please include in the tender a proposed course outline and relevant training experience on this topic of the proposed trainer. Please state if course materials will be provided to attendees in soft or hard copy format and include any costs of printing and delivery (if applicable) in the quoted price. **Any additional costs which are not included in the tender can not be considered later**, so please do not omit any printing, certification, travel or VAT or other optional extra costs from the tender.