

FREQUENTLY ASKING QUESTION (FAQ) LiKES 2026

1. What is LiKES 2026?

- Latihan Industri untuk Perusahaan Kecil & Sederhana (LiKES) 2026, also known as the Internship Placement Matching Grant for SMEs and Start-Ups (LiKES) 2026, offers the **RM2,000 Advance Grant and/or the 50% Matching Grant (Pay & Claim)** to encourage SMEs and start-ups to provide paid and structured internship placements in Malaysia.

2. What is the RM2,000 Advance Grant and 50% Matching Grant enhancement under LiKES?

Advance Grant RM2,000	50% Matching Grant (Pay and Claim)
RM2,000 is paid in advance to the eligible employer.	50% reimbursement of monthly allowance paid, capped at RM850 per month.
The internship must be for a period of four (4) months and shall commence from March 2026 onwards.	Minimum duration of 2.5 months and maximum of 12 months for internship starting January to December 2026
Applicable to the internship students who have been offered internship placement.	
The minimum allowance must comply with RM500 / RM600 according to tier.	
Subject to approval and terms and conditions.	

3. What is the eligibility of the company and intern?

Company	Intern
SMEs and Start-ups registered with Companies Commission of Malaysia (SSM) or other valid business registration bodies accepted in Malaysia.	Malaysian Citizen studying full time at tertiary institutions in Malaysia or abroad.
Provide internship placement for a minimum of 2.5 months and maximum of 12 months.	Secure an internship offer with LiKES Company.
Pay intern a minimum monthly allowance according to tier.	Undergoing internship in Malaysia.
Complete the internship module structure and job description.	Completed registration MyNext Talent at talent.mynext.my
Registered and approved by TalentCorp.	Complete the internship before the end of the study programme.

4. How can I determine whether my company qualifies as an SME or a Start-Up?

➤ DEFINITION OF SMALL MEDIUM ENTERPRISE (SMEs)

Type of Company	Manufacturing Sector	Services & Other Sector
Microenterprises (all sector)	Sales turnover < RM300,000 OR < 5 employees	
Small	Sales turnover RM300,000 – < RM15 million OR 5 – < 75 employees	Sales turnover RM300,000 – < RM3 million OR 5 – < 30 employees
Medium	Sales turnover RM15 million – ≤ RM50 million OR 75 – ≤ 200 employees	Sales turnover RM3 million – ≤ RM20 million OR 30 – ≤ 75 employees

➤ DEFINITION OF START-UP

- Company must be incorporated in Malaysia for more than two (2) years but not exceeding five (5) years.
 - Revenue and / or investment size of less than RM20 million.
 - Innovation-driven and disruptive, technology enabled business.
- 5. Do interns hired in 2025 qualify for the RM2,000 Advance Grant and/or the 50% Matching Grant (Pay & Claim)?**
- No, the interns with internship start dates in 2025 will be subject to the previous Matching Grant (Pay & Claim) mechanism and terms & condition.
- 6. How can my companies apply for LiKES?**
- You may apply at: www.talentcorp.com.my/likes
- 7. How much grant will the employer receive?**
- The applicable grant mechanism (RM2,000 Advance Grant and/or 50% Matching Grant (Pay & Claim) will depend on the intern's internship activities, including the start date and duration of the internship.
- 8. What if the employer wants to pay more than the minimum amount?**
- Companies are encouraged to pay slightly above the minimum allowance, as deductions due to absence, unpaid leave, or unforeseen situations may reduce the amount below the required minimum. (If any)
- 9. What happens if my company pays more than RM1,700 per month?**
- The reimbursement will still remain capped at RM850.
- 10. How many interns can my company claim under LiKES?**
- Company may claim LiKES reimbursement for up to ten (10) interns. Out of this total, maximum five (5) interns are eligible for the RM2,000 Advance Grant.

11. My company registered under LiKES in 2025 and received endorsement from 1 November 2025 until 1 November 2026. Do we need to re-register for LiKES 2026?

- Yes. Although your company has an existing endorsement under LiKES 2025, we encourage all participating companies to re-register for LiKES 2026. As the previous process was managed manually and the 2026 structure includes updates and enhancements, re-registration will help ensure your company's details are accurately captured under the latest mechanism and avoid any potential miscommunication or processing delays.

12. When can we submit the claim for reimbursement?

- You can submit supporting documents for claim immediately upon registration for advance claim (upon intern hired) and / or upon completion of internship for matching grant (pay & claim).

13. How long is the process for us to get the reimbursement?

- The entire process takes approximately 43 working days. However, the reimbursement itself will be processed within 14 working days after Step 3, provided that all supporting documents are complete and submitted correctly.

14. Is the reimbursement calculation on the website accurate?

- The calculator on the website is provided for reference and estimation purposes only. The actual reimbursement amount may vary depending on the internship details and prorated calculations.

15. Is there a dedicated platform for LiKES?

- There is no any dedicated platform under LiKES. All communication is via email likes@talentcorp.com.my

16. Can a company participate in both MySIP and LiKES simultaneously?

- Yes, companies may participate in both programmes, provided that the company is a corporate taxpayer. However, the same intern cannot be claimed under both MySIP and LiKES. For example, if Company A hires 10 interns, 5 interns may be applied under MySIP and the remaining 5 interns may be applied under LiKES. The same intern cannot be claimed for both programmes.