



# Get Funding

## Funding, grants and wage subsidies for community partners offering work-integrated learning opportunities

Work-integrated learning is an engaged partnership between community partners, post-secondary institutions and students that better equips students with practical experience and also benefits the workplace, by providing skilled talent to tackle projects, build capacity and fills any gaps in staffing. It's also a great way to recruit and develop future workers.

If you're considering hiring a work-integrated learning student for your organization, you may be eligible for one or more of the following Federal and BC funding resources.

### BC Programs

#### BC Arts Council: Co-op Placements

<https://www.bcartscouncil.ca/program/co-op-placements>

The Co-op Placements program assists arts and cultural organizations that have previously received grants through the BC Arts Council or are an Indigenous Government, Friendship Centre, or Métis Chartered Community offering dedicated arts and culture programs or projects where the scope of work of the Co-op or Work-Integrated Learning student would focus on these activities. The assistance level for Co-op Placements is up to \$10,000 per work term of up to 16 weeks, or for two consecutive placements for the same student and request up to \$20,000 for up to 32 weeks. Applications are accepted annually in December.

#### Columbia Basin Trust – School Works

<https://ourtrust.org/grants-and-programs-directory/school-works>

Through the School Works Co-op and Apprentice Wage Subsidy programs, businesses, non-profit and First Nations organizations, and public bodies with business headquarters located within the Columbia Basin Trust region can apply for wage subsidies. Apprentice Wage Subsidy supports hiring apprentices for full-time employment to complete their first-level work-based training requirements with an \$8/hour wage subsidy, and will also support the retention of participating apprentices through their second-level requirements with a \$4/hour wage subsidy. Co-op Wage Subsidy support is also available for the hiring of students participating in a recognized co-op program, for an \$8/hour wage subsidy. Employers are expected to top up wages to the market wage rate for the position. Applications are accepted on first-come, first-served basis.

#### Innovate BC - Tech Co-op Grant

<https://innovatebc.ca/what-we-offer/get-funding/co-op-hiring-grant>

Get up to \$20,000 per year in funding to hire co-op students through the Tech Co-op Grant, which is available for technology-based companies looking to grow or a non-tech company, organization or non-profit hiring for a tech role. Each employer is eligible to receive a maximum of four grants each per program year valued at \$5,000 each, to recruit and train between one to four distinct co-op students. Employers must be BC-based with less than 500 employees. Eligible student must be hired through an accredited co-op program in B.C. Applications are accepted year-round.

*As of April 2021*

## **New Ventures BC – Innovator Skills Initiative Grant**

<https://www.newventuresbc.com/accelerate/isi>

Get up to \$10,000 per year in funding to hire students through WIL programs (not including co-op), such as internships and work placements. Eligible employers are tech companies or tech-focused non-profits hiring for a business or tech role, or a business or non-profit hiring for a tech role. Employers must also be able to provide entrepreneurial and skills training to the student. Applications are accepted on first-come, first-served, rolling basis.

## **Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS)**

<https://pics.uvic.ca/programs/internships>

PICS Internships program provides support for the hiring of university students at the workplaces pursuing climate change mitigation and adaptation research, planning or implementation. Workplaces can be governments, NGOs, industry and communities in BC. Eligible students must be enrolled in a full-time undergraduate or graduate program at one of the four PICS partner institutions: UVIC, UBC, SFU or UNBC. Students must either be returning to complete their degree programs following the internship, or have completed their programs the semester prior to the start of the internship. PICS will provide \$12,000 to hire a student intern for a minimum of 13 weeks. Applications are accepted annually in January.

## **Canada Revenue Agency - Scientific Research & Experimental Development Tax Credit**

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/income-taxes/corporate/credits/scientific-research-development>

The British Columbia SR&ED Tax Credit program is designed to encourage research and development in British Columbia that will lead to new, improved, or technologically advanced products or processes. The tax credit is available for qualifying corporations that carry on scientific research and experimental development in B.C. before September 1, 2022 and must be claimed no later than 18 months after the end of the tax year in which the qualified expenditures are incurred.

## **Federal programs**

### **National Research Council Canada - Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP)**

<https://nrc.canada.ca/en/support-technology-innovation>

Through the Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP), Canadian small and medium-sized businesses can receive funding and other supports to increase their innovation capacity and take ideas to market. Funding is available through technology innovation projects and youth employment strategy programs for incorporated, profit-oriented businesses in Canada with under 500 employees planning to pursue growth and profit by developing and commercializing innovative, technology-driven new or improved products, services or processes in Canada could be eligible. Inquiries are accepted year-round.

### **Mitacs - Accelerate**

<https://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/accelerate#business>

The Mitacs Accelerate program provides support for research partnerships including funding for internships. Organizations partner with academic researchers to develop a project proposal, and must provide a financial contribution of at least \$7,500, which is matched by Mitacs. Projects can include multiple interns and span multiple terms. Interns spend about half the term on site, working on the research issue in question and collecting data, and the balance at their university further advancing the research under the guidance of a faculty supervisor. Applications are accepted year-round.

### **Service Canada – Canada Summer Jobs**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs.html>

Canada Summer Jobs provides funding to help small businesses, public sector employers, and non-profit organizations to hire students under the age of 30 during the summer term. Funding is available to approved employers for up to 50 per cent of minimum wage for private companies and public sector employers, and up to 100 per cent of the minimum wage for non-profit organizations. Applications are accepted in late January-early February of each year; approval notifications are sent to employers in May.

## United Nations Associations in Canada (UNAC) - Canada Green Corps

<http://www.unac.org/green-corps>

Canada Green Corps provides support for internships with organizations that are committed to the green economy and contribute to Canada's commitments on climate and environment. Eligible employers can include non-profit organizations, governments, indigenous organizations and private companies. This opportunity is not for existing students - interns must be recent students or graduates eligible to work in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math (STEM) fields and able to work full-time. Applications are accepted year-round.

## Student Work Placement Program (SWPP)

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/work-integrated-learning.html>

The Federal Government's Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) offers the Student Work Placement Program to create quality work-integrated learning opportunities for students who will be better positioned to secure employment in their field of study. The program provides up to 50% (to a maximum of \$5,000) of a work term student's pay in wage subsidies to employers. Employers that hire students from underrepresented groups including women in a STEM program, indigenous students, recent immigrants, persons with disabilities, and first-year students may qualify for funding up to 70% (to a maximum of \$7,000). Funding is provided for net new positions – over and above what the employers usually hires and for new positions that previously did not exist. Wage subsidies must be applied for through one of the employer partner organizations (listed below).

### > BioTalent Canada

<https://www.biotalent.ca/programs/student-work-placement-program>

BioTalent Canada is focused on growth of Canada's bio-economy. To qualify for funding, either the position needs to have a biotechnology focus, or the employer needs to have a biotechnology focus. Sectors include bio-health, bio-energy, bio-industrial and agri-biotech. Opportunities must be full-time for 16 weeks, and for students enrolled Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math (STEAM) or Business programs. Applications are accepted year-round.

### > Canadian Council for Aviation & Aerospace (CCAA)

<https://www.avaerocouncil.ca/en/student-work-placement-program-swpp>

The CCAA works to create work-integrated learning placements in the aviation and aerospace sector. There must be an industry component – the focus of the subsidies is hands-on experience, so a research-only position does not qualify. Opportunities can be full-time or part-time, for students enrolled Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math (STEAM) or Business programs. Employers do not need to be members of CCAA. Applications are accepted year-round.

### > Electricity Human Resources Canada (EHRC) – Empowering Futures

<http://electricityhr.ca/empowering-futures>

The *Empowering Futures* Program is aimed at the electricity industry where the primary activity is the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity, as well as sector support including renewables, research and development, business development or energy efficiency. Opportunities can be full-time or part-time, for students enrolled Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math (STEAM) or Business programs. Applications are accepted year-round.

### > Environmental Careers Organization of Canada (ECO Canada)

<https://www.eco.ca/employment-programs/student-placement>

ECO Canada's program works with employers and post-secondary partners to help students kick-start their career path in the environmental sector, and for employers to hire the brightest minds in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math (STEAM) or Business. Work terms can be full-time or part time from 6 - 16 weeks. Employers can apply for back-to-back placements for the same student. Applications are accepted year-round.

### > Excellence in Manufacturing Consortium (ECM) - WILWorks

<https://offers.emccanada.org/en-ca/emcwil>

The WILWorks program supports Canada's manufacturing related sub-sectors and supply chain employers (e.g. North American Industry Classification - NAICS codes 31-33). The WILWorks program will support manufacturers hiring student talent through internships, co-op placements, practicums or applied research projects, in either direct or indirect roles, for 6-16 weeks. Eligible students can be enrolled in any program. Applications are accepted year-round.

### > **Information and Communications Technology Council (ICTC) – WIL Digital**

<https://www.wil-ait.digital/en>

ICTC's WIL Digital program aims to develop talent for the emerging ICT sectors. Funding is open to targeted sectors as well as those with a position directly involved in the development or implementation of emerging technology. Students must be enrolled in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math (STEAM) or Business. Work terms can be full-time or part time. Employers can apply for back-to-back placements for the same student. Applications are accepted year-round.

### > **Magnet Student Work Placement Program**

<https://swpp.magnet.today/#employers>

Magnet brings together employers, students, and post-secondary institution stakeholders to create quality work-integrated learning (WIL) opportunities. Registered Canadian business or non-profit organizations are eligible for funding. Positions can be full-time or part-time. Students from all post-secondary programs are eligible, however they must have a work-integrated learning component within their study plan. Applications are accepted year-round.

### > **Mining Industry Human Resources Council (MiHR) – Gearing Up**

<https://mihr.ca/career-development/gearing-up>

Gearing Up is aimed at Canada's mining sector with a goal to change the way students in mining-related post-secondary programs perceive, pursue and acquire skills needed for mining careers. Employers must be involved in mining or mineral exploration, post-secondary institutions or non-profit organizations. Eligible students can be enrolled Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) and Business programs. Applications are accepted year-round.

### > **Ontario Chamber of Commerce - Talent Opportunities Program (TOP)**

<https://occ.ca/talent-opportunities-program/>

The Talent Opportunities Program (TOP) is designed to help employers located anywhere in Canada hire college and university students on work placements. Employers must be a registered Canadian business or not-for-profit organization and may operate in any industry sector. Students from all post-secondary programs are eligible, however they must have a work-integrated learning component within their study plan. Applications are accepted year-round.

### > **TECHNATION Canada (formerly ITAC) – Career Ready**

<https://itactalent.ca/our-programs/work-integrated-learning>

The Career Ready program supports businesses that provide meaningful work opportunities for students that build technical capacity. Opportunities should be full-time for a minimum of 12 weeks, though shorter terms or part-time positions are considered on a case-by-case basis. Eligible students can be enrolled Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math (STEAM) or Business programs. Applications are accepted year-round.

### > **Venture for Canada**

<https://www.ventureforcanada.ca/programs/internship>

Venture for Canada is open to all industries/sectors, including social enterprises, non-profits charities and start-ups. Employers are required to provide an internship opportunity that allows entrepreneurial-minded students to contribute to new initiatives or add new value to your organization. Positions can be full-time or part-time; a standard placement is full-time for 14-16 weeks. Applications are accepted year-round.

For more information about the nine types of work-integrated learning and how you can benefit, or to post an opportunity, visit the ACE-WIL BC/Yukon website at [acewilbc.ca](http://acewilbc.ca)