



Introduction

This document is designed to give you and your organization a high-level summary of funding opportunities available via Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) that are not specifically earmarked for OLMCs but may be of interest and impact in your respective communities.

How to use this file

The ESDC website provides a plethora of information about its various funding programs and categorizes their opportunities by topic, open calls, and opportunities for solicited organizations. In the sections that follow, you will find the funding program title, a summary of the program's objectives, the envelope's accessibility to community organizations (open call or for solicited organizations), information about its reach (pan-Canadian, provincial, regional, etc.), funding amounts, and key eligibility requirements. Wherever possible, a live link has been provided that will take the reader straight to the complete program information page on ESDC's website[♦].

ESDC funding programs for jobs, training, and social development projects

In-Home Support Pilot Project stream of the Age Well at Home initiative [click here](#)

OPEN CALL

Description: The Age Well at Home (AWAH) is a federal funding initiative aimed at funding initiatives that facilitate healthy, safe, and independent living for seniors that want to stay at home, in the communities that support them, for as long as possible.

The **In-Home Support Pilot Project** is a stream of the AWAH initiative that funds eligible organizations across Canada with experience delivering one or more volunteer-based services to seniors (light housekeeping, meal delivery and/or preparation, home maintenance, transportation, snow removal, volunteer drop offs, friendly visits in the home).

Objectives:

- expand delivery of volunteer-based eligible services to low-income and otherwise vulnerable seniors, primarily in the seniors' homes to help them age at home, by offering additional eligible services and/or offering existing eligible services to more seniors, and
- provide a service that helps low-income and otherwise vulnerable seniors navigate and gain access to eligible services provided by other organizations active in the local area

[♦] The ESDC website gets updated a few times a year – thank you for letting the RDN team know about any links that need to be adjusted.



Eligibility:

- non-profit or charitable status
- your organization can only submit 1 application under the In-Home Support Pilot stream Call for Proposals (CFP)
- your organization must have demonstrated experience in delivering one of the listed volunteer-based services to low-income and otherwise vulnerable seniors, primarily in their home, for at least 3 of the last 5 years
- M-30 may be required for Quebec-based organizations
- your project must meet the following criteria:
 - end by March 31, 2025
 - request no less than \$300,000
 - request no more than \$800,000
 - deliver services only within a local area (not of national or provincial scope)

Scaling Up for Seniors Project stream of the Age Well at Home initiative [click here](#)

OPEN CALL

Description: The Age Well at Home (AWAH) is a federal funding initiative aimed at funding initiatives that facilitate healthy, safe, and independent living for seniors that want to stay at home, in the communities that support them, for as long as possible.

The **Scaling Up for Seniors** is a stream of the AWAH Initiative that provides funds to eligible organizations to scale up (expand) services that have already demonstrated results in helping seniors age in place. Applications must include the delivery of services in Canada in more than 1 province or territory. **However, organizations located in Quebec can choose whether to propose to scale up within a single province or territory only.**

Organizations funded through this initiative will be required to undertake evaluation activities and plan for the sustainability of their projects.

Objectives (proposals must focus on both objectives):

- scale up services, previously delivered in Canada, that have already shown positive results in helping seniors age at home
- deliver services directly to beneficiaries (seniors or seniors-serving organizations) to help seniors age at home

Eligibility:

- non-profit or charitable status
- your organization can only submit 1 application under the In-Home Support Pilot stream Call for Proposals (CFP)
- your organization must have experience in delivering programs and services to seniors.



- M-30 may be required for Quebec-based organizations
- your project must meet the following criteria:
 - end by March 31, 2025
 - request no less than \$100,000
 - request no more than \$2,000,000
 - demonstrate the need for the proposed project, including the target group(s) of seniors
 - scale up services that have already shown positive results in Canada in helping seniors age at home
 - an evaluation of the activities/service(s) was conducted in the last 5 years
 - organizations located (headquarters) in Quebec can choose to propose to scale up within a single province or territory, or within more than 1 province or territory

Community Workforce Development Program - Regional Stream

[click here](#)

SOLICITED
ORGANIZATIONS

Description: The Community Workforce Development Program (CWDP) is a pilot to test community-based approaches to workforce planning and skills training to support local economic development and growth aiming to benefit 25 communities, 250 employers, and 2,500 workers.

The program aims to strengthen communities by supporting economic and workforce development including helping Canadians develop the skills they need to adapt in a changing labour market and improving diversity/inclusion by supporting under-represented groups in the labour market.

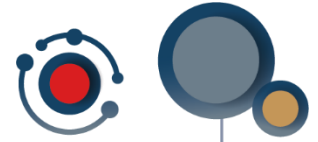
Objectives:

The program encourages collaboration between employers, training providers, community organizations and others, to:

- support community workforce planning by:
 - bringing organizations together from across industries and sectors
 - identifying high growth areas
 - finding local sources of labour to meet employer demand
- connect employers and training providers to upskill and reskill jobseekers and workers with the skills employers need, and
- fill current and emerging jobs

Eligibility:

- non-profit or charitable status
- M-30 may be required for Quebec-based organizations
- only organizations invited by Employment and Social Development Canada can apply
 - ESDC applies the following criteria when inviting organizations to apply
 - organizations with the necessary capacity, experience, and expertise to deliver on program objectives



- representation from diverse sectors including education and training, labour, not-for profit, and Indigenous organizations
- geographic diversity, and
- organizations that work with under-represented groups

Sectoral Workforce Solutions Program - funding to support workers and employers towards economic recovery [click here](#)

OPEN CALL

Description: The Sectoral Workforce Solutions Program (SWSP) helps key sectors of the economy to develop and implement solutions to address current and emerging workforce needs by supporting projects that focus on a range of industry-driven activities including training and reskilling workers, helping employers retain and attract a skilled and diverse workforce, etc. to help sectors address labour market needs.

Collaboration with other sectoral stakeholders and provincial or territorial governments to implement wide-scale industry solutions is encouraged and eligible organizations could apply for funding at a minimum of \$5,000,000* and maximum of \$50,000,000.

Objectives:

The objective of the most recent open call was to provide support to organizations implementing industry solutions that supported skills and employment needs.

- Projects needed to focus on addressing workforce challenges in one or more of the following 3 policy priority areas
 - *Building Talent for the Clean Economy*
 - *Supporting Demand-Driven Solutions for Sectors Hardest Hit by the Pandemic and Those Key to Recovery*
 - *Investing in the Health Care Sector*

Eligibility:

- non-profit status
- applications were most recently accepted from organizations that:
 - had capacity and readiness to establish a project quickly and demonstrate how activities will be undertaken promptly
 - had an in-depth knowledge of skills issues in a sector or multiple sectors, for example:
 - current and upcoming labour market needs
 - sector-specific labour market information
 - labour market forecasts
 - cross-sectoral common needs and challenges
 - had established partnerships with national, provincial, and/or regional sectoral stakeholders. These partnerships can include cross-sectoral partners, to ensure that projects are employer or industry-driven and meet sectoral needs



- this funding most recently supported large-scale, high-impact projects that were either:
 - national - with project activities occurring in at least 3 provinces/territories (PT)
 - regional - where project activities occur in a province/territory, major economic hub[♦], or key sector-based cluster
- M-30 may be required for Quebec-based organizations

Youth Employment and Skills Strategy Program: National or Regional

[click here](#)

OPEN CALL

Description: The Youth Employment and Skills Strategy (YESS) is a new, integrated strategy, aimed at responding to a range of labour market challenges faced by youth, particularly for those facing barriers to employment. The *Skills Link*, *Career Focus*, and *Summer Work Experience* (excluding *Canada Summer Jobs*) programs previously funded under the *Youth Employment Strategy* envelope have been merged into this integrated strategy.

Collaboration and innovation to increase capacity across the youth service provider network (e.g., employers, service delivery organizations and educational institutions) is encouraged, to better support youth, and to assist employers with their recruitment and retention, particularly those facing barriers.

There are two streams of funding:

- national: project activities take place in three (3) or more province or territories
- regional: project activities can be provincial, territorial, or local in scope. Activities must only take place in one province or territory

Until further notice, the regional stream is not open to Quebec organizations, however they are able to apply on the national stream.

Objectives:

The objective of the most recent open call was to fund successful applicants whose projects were designed to deliver a range of activities to support youth to overcome barriers to employment, and to help youth develop a broad range of skills and knowledge in order to participate in the current and future labour market.

Eligibility:

- non-profit status
- M-30 may be required for Quebec-based organizations
- projects of 1 to 3 years in duration (12 months to 36 months) starting as early as April 1, 2020
- for projects that offering direct services to youth, the contribution recipients must recruit participants that meet specific criteria (available on the ESDC website)

[♦] Economic hub refers to a city or region where there is a dense area of workplace activity consisting of multiple large sectoral or cross-sectoral organizations.



- the amount requested from ESDC should not exceed \$5M per year per national project or \$3M per year per regional project

Skills for Success Program [click here](#)

OPEN CALL

Description: The Skills for Success program provides funding to organizations, employers, provinces, and territories to develop assessment and training tools related to the Skills for Success, and test, replicate, and scale Skills for Success training approaches with a focus on groups underrepresented in the workplace.

There are two streams of funding:

- Research and Innovation Stream
- Training and Tools Stream

Objectives:

Under the **Research and Innovation Stream** funded projects must focus on:

- supporting research and innovative projects to identify better ways of helping persons (the most recent call was specifically focused on adults) prepare for, return to, or keep employment and be productive participants in the labour force

Under the **Training and Tools Stream** funded projects must meet 1 or both of the following:

- Objective A: Design and implement training to support individuals to improve their foundational and transferable skills and be better prepared to meet on-the-job demands (in addition to other requirements specific to Objective A listed on the ESDC website)
- Objective B: Develop assessment tools and training resources (in addition to other requirements specific to Objective B listed on the ESDC website)

Eligibility:

- non-profit status
- M-30 may be required for Quebec-based organizations
- your project must have met all of the following criteria:
 - duration of the project must not exceed March 31, 2024.
 - scope of the project is eligible if it covers 1 or more of the following:
 - National in scope, meaning the project includes activities that:
 - will take place in more than 1 province or territory, including online
 - Regional in scope, meaning the project includes activities that:
 - will take place within a province or territory, and
 - target racialized groups or Official Language Minority Communities, and/or
 - Remote in scope, meaning having:
 - a population of less than 1,000 (core population), and



- no, or very little, access to the services of the closest municipality with a population of 1,000 or more exists
- request no more than \$10 million per project
- focus on:
 - designing and implementing training to support individuals to improve their foundational and transferable skills and be better prepared to meet on-the-job demands; and/or
 - developing assessment tools and training resources
- enable the broad adoption and uptake of the Skills for Success Model. This is done by including a dissemination and sustainability strategy to share project results with organizations and employers
- ensure access to skills training opportunities is unaffected by one's gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation. The project must contain a strategy to achieve gender equality in the delivery of their training

Wage subsidies to hire post-secondary students [click here](#)

CALL
INFORMATION
NOT SPECIFIED

Description: This stream of the [Student Work Placement program](#) provides employers with wage subsidies to hire post-secondary students across Canada.

Subsidies range from:

- Up to \$5,000 for every student hired through the program
- Up to \$7,000 for every student hired that is in their first year or is from an under-represented group including:
 - women in STEM
 - persons with disabilities
 - newcomers
 - Indigenous students
 - visible minorities

Objectives:

Provide wage subsidies to employers offering quality student work placements including, but not limited to:

- mentorship programs
- co-op placements
- practicums, and
- internships

Eligibility:

- apply for wage subsidies through one of the funding recipients listed [here](#); procedures and criteria may vary



Skilled Trades Awareness and Readiness program [click here](#)

CALL
INFORMATION
NOT SPECIFIED

Description: The Skilled Trades Awareness and Readiness (STAR) program encourages Canadians to explore and prepare for careers in the skilled trades. The program has a budget of \$10 million per year.

The program also targets groups that face barriers entering the trades, for example:

- youth
- women
- indigenous people
- newcomers
- persons with disabilities
- visible minorities

Objectives:

The program strives to:

- make people aware of the trades as good quality careers
- provide opportunities to explore the trades
- provide individuals with the skills and supports they need to pursue a career in the skilled trades

Activities funded under the STAR program could include:

- career exploration opportunities to support well-informed career decisions, for example:
 - career fairs
 - mentorship
 - job shadowing
- skills training to help individuals prepare for success, for example:
 - essential skills training
 - safety certification
- work experience to offer hands-on job experience, for example:
 - work placements to increase awareness of the trades
 - get hands-on experience

Eligibility:

- no criteria listed
- no application procedures described



Supports for Student Learning Program [click here](#)

CALL
INFORMATION
NOT SPECIFIED

Description: The Supports for Student Learning Program (SSLP) funds expert organizations to provide services and open up opportunities to students outside the classroom to make it easier for students to stay in school, continue their studies and gain new skills to help them succeed in their education.

Objectives:

The program strives to fund many flexible and inclusive supports, including:

- tutoring sessions
- mentoring programs
- mental and social wellbeing services
- bursaries and scholarships
- opportunities to study or work outside Canada

The program aims to reach students who may face greater barriers to education, including (but not limited to):

- Indigenous students
- visible minority and racialized students
- students living with disabilities
- students living in a low-income household
- students identifying as 2SLGBTQ+

How it works:

The SSLP funds a range of national and local youth-serving organizations who offer programs to improve student success.

- Budget 2021 announced \$118.4 million over 2 years, starting in 2021 to 2022 which represents an expansion of the program to help mitigate challenges youth are facing because of the pandemic.
 - This new funding builds on past funding for the SSLP and its related programs, such as:
 - Goal Getters, under the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy
 - emergency funding in response to COVID-19, which began in 2020
 - the Outbound Student Mobility Pilot, as part of Canada's International Education Strategy, which creates opportunities for students to study and work abroad and build the skills they need

Eligibility:

- no criteria listed for the national and local youth-serving organizations
- no application procedures described
- contact email address provided on the program page edsc.dga.psaе-sslp.lb.esdc@hrdc-drhc.net



New Horizons for Seniors Program – Community-based projects up to \$25,000 [click here](#)

OPEN CALL

Description: Eligible organizations can apply for up to \$25,000 for projects that are led by seniors and volunteer based

Objectives:

Projects for regular grants (up to \$25,000) must meet at least 1 of the following program objectives:

- promoting volunteerism among seniors and other generations
- engaging seniors in the community through the mentoring of others
- expanding awareness of elder abuse, including financial abuse
- supporting the social participation and inclusion of seniors
- providing capital assistance for new and existing community projects and programs for seniors

If your proposed project is requesting capital assistance, you must choose 2 program objectives.

Applications for regular grants (up to \$25,000) do not have to meet 1 of the National Priorities listed [here](#) but if it does, it will receive extra points during its assessment.

Eligibility:

- non-profit status
- your project must meet all the following criteria:
 - be no longer than 52 weeks
 - request no more than \$25,000
 - meet at least 1 program objective
 - seniors will lead or play a vital role in its planning and/or delivery
 - seek to benefit seniors and communities
 - demonstrate cost effectiveness

Social Development Partnerships Program [click here](#)

CALL
INFORMATION
NOT SPECIFIED

Description: The Social Development Partnerships Program makes strategic investments in support of government priorities as they relate to children and families, people with disabilities, volunteerism, official language minority communities and other vulnerable populations by playing a unique role in furthering broad social goals and providing opportunities to work in partnership with social not-for-profit organizations to help improve the vitality of these target groups.



Objectives:

Aiming to support the creation of more responsive programs, services, or tools to better serve the diverse needs of children and their families, strategic grant- and contribution-based investments are made supporting projects in the not-for-profit sector to meet their social needs as well as those of other vulnerable populations.

Funds are delivered through targeted sub-programs:

- Children and families
 - source of funding for official language minority communities, the Canada Volunteer Award, and the analysis and dissemination of the General Social Survey—Giving, Volunteering and Participating.
 - [Early learning and childcare](#)
 - no eligibility requirements listed
 - no application information available
 - [Child and Family Social Development projects](#)
 - funding is provided to eligible organizations for projects that help to improve the lives of children and families
 - not-for-profit organizations, including registered charities and social enterprises are eligible to apply
 - [Canada’s Volunteer Awards](#)
 - recognize volunteers and bring national prominence to the contributions made by individuals, not-for-profit organizations, social enterprises, and businesses to their communities through volunteerism
- Disability
 - [Performance and Accountability Framework](#)
 - no eligibility requirements listed
 - no application information available
 - [Child and Family Social Development projects](#)
 - funding is provided to eligible organizations for projects that help to improve the lives of children and families
 - not-for-profit organization, including registered charities and social enterprises are eligible to apply
- [Community Services Recovery Fund](#)
 - a one-time, \$400 million investment to help charities and non-profits adapt and modernize in order to strengthen the sector as it supports community recovery from the pandemic
 - ESDC will select national funders to deliver the Community Services Recovery Fund. National funders will be responsible for:
 - setting up open application portals
 - reaching out to diverse communities across Canada
 - assessing community-level needs
 - distributing the funding to charities and non-profits



- Eligible projects may focus on:
 - adapting the way charities and non-profits deliver services to support the needs of staff and volunteers
 - buying equipment, such as:
 - computers
 - computer programs
 - creating new ways of working, such as:
 - new fundraising approaches
 - connecting to learn from other organizations
 - getting support for staff and volunteers, such as:
 - staff training
 - supports for mental health and wellbeing
 - making plans to receive funding from diverse sources

Who can receive funding?

- National funders will accept project proposals from Canadian charities and non-profits.
 - How to apply
 - Eligible charities and non-profits will apply through funding portals on national funders' webpages
 - Funding portals are not open at this time
 - contact email address provided on the program page NC-SOCIAL_INNOVATION_SOCIALE-GD@hrsdcc.gc.ca