

Summer Company

Summer Company Eligibility

Eligible Applicants Include:

- A student between 15 and 29 years old (a parent or guardian must sign the application for applicants under 18)
- Starting a new business
- Attending school and returning to school in the fall (this includes full-time, part-time, homeschooling, e-learning, distance learning, apprenticeships, trade schools, etc.)
- A resident of Ontario
- A Canadian citizen or a permanent resident
- Not working at another job or attending school for more than 12 hours per week during the duration of the program
- Following the Canada Revenue Agency's definition of being self-employed
- Able to work over the summer program period:
 - A minimum of 280 hours if you're a high school student
 - A minimum of 420 hours if you're a post-secondary student

Business eligibility requirements

- Is a sole proprietorship or a corporation where you (the applicant) will be the majority shareholder
- Is an independent business venture
- Operates in Ontario
- Operates full-time as defined in the business plan
- Follows government rules and regulations for operating a business
- Businesses must meet all of the above requirements

Businesses not eligible for funding

- Partnerships/co-operatives
- Franchises
- Distributorships
- Incorporated businesses that are controlled directly or indirectly by a person who would not be eligible for a Summer Company award
- Business ventures that are subsidiaries or divisions of an existing business
- Business ventures that are continuations of existing commercial endeavours
- Commissioned sales

- Multi-level marketing ventures
- Single events such as a theatrical production, a DJ gig, a music concert, a dance/party event, a fundraiser, a sporting tournament, etc.
- Businesses that are strictly pay-per-click
- 1-900 businesses

Conditions

The program gives students the full experience of running their own business. Note that:

- The program provider may, at its discretion, determine that a particular business is ineligible for the Summer Company program
- Online businesses are acceptable, but there must be face-to-face opportunities to market and sell your product
- App and tech businesses must be market-ready and must generate sales by the end of the summer
- If you plan to run a business that requires certification, you'll need to show proof to your program provider. If you're unsure about certification obligations, ask your program provider. Certification examples include:
 - Food handling certification for businesses that produce and/or sell food
 - National Life Saving certification for businesses that offer swimming lessons
 - Canada Professional Fitness Certification (CanFitPro) for businesses that offer personal fitness training
 - Licenses for businesses that specialize in drone photography

Applying

The applicant is responsible for planning business operations with the completion of a business plan, meeting with the provider, and submitting a start-up expense list. If your application is accepted, you will be eligible to receive an upfront award of up to \$1,500 toward start-up costs and up to \$1,500 upon successful completion of the program. Successful completion requires that you:

- Implement your project substantially in accordance with the business plan
- Participate in coaching and training
- Provide documents related to the experience and business operations as required in the guidelines
- Meet all program requirements for establishing and operating the business

Once approved, you'll be required to:

- Sign a Letter of Agreement with the program provider describing each party's rights and responsibilities (a parent or guardian Must sign the agreement for applicants under 18)

- Sign a Release and Consent form (a parent or guardian must sign the form for participants under 18)
- Show your business name registration and any required licensing documents to your program provider for verification
- Spend your first payment within the first 30 days
- Operate your business over the summer program period, according to your business plan and cash flow, for:
 - a minimum of 280 hours if you are a high school student
 - a minimum of 420 hours if you are a post-secondary student
- Meet with your local program provider and mentors for a minimum of four meetings to review and track your progress
- Agree to one site visit by the program provider
- Maintain appropriate business records of income and expenditures including receipts
- Participate in business training with your program provider

Term of the program

You may decide to start and/or continue your business while you're in school, but for the purpose of the program's administration, business operations can start no earlier than April 1 and must end by Labour Day.

Taxes

The grant is taxable under the Canada and Ontario Income Tax Acts. A T4A slip will be issued to the recipient of the award.