



LONDON ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Top Grants & Subsidies



London, Ontario, Canada

www.ledc.com

LONDON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Welcome to the LEDC's compilation of the most popular government grants and business support programs. This information was gathered and assembled from a variety of sources, and put into a single-source document to benefit those seeking Government Grants and Subsidies. **The full range of approximately 300 Grants/Subsidies can be found on www.ledc.com.** *Select 'LEDC SERVICES' from the menu to the left, and click on "GROWTH AND RETENTION" from the drop down menu and then Grants/Subsidies.*

EXPLANATION OF HEADINGS

Grant type - application type (e.g. research and development, export, youth programs, etc.)

Grant responsibility - the Agency or Ministry funding the program

Program Title - Self explanatory

SEQUENCE OF THE GRANTS AND SUPPORT PROGRAMS

This book is in order by grant type. All of the "Research and Development" based grants, for example, are together.

LEDC WEBSITE

All of the information in this book is also on our website, www.ledc.com. It can be keyword searched to meet your needs.

We hope you find the information in this compilation helpful.

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Business goes where it's wanted and stays where it's appreciated.

GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS NOTE:

All efforts have been made to verify the accuracy of the URLs in this book upon publication. However, since Web site addresses do change frequently, it is possible that not every cited URL will be accessible.

In the course of the research for this compilation of Government Programs, it was observed that a number of the Web sites were difficult to navigate. For this reason, we have provided direct links to the relevant pages as much as possible. However, we have learned that some systems will not take the searcher to the direct link, and will result in an error message. If this occurs we suggest that you try connecting to the home page of the URL, and then follow the links on that page to the program you are looking for. For example, the link for the Ontario Business-Research Institute Tax Credit is:

www.2ontario.com/

The home page is www.2ontario.com/. Link to this site and then search for location of the Ontario Business-Research Institute Tax Credit on the site. Additionally, a search engine may help you find the program's exact (or new) location.

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EXPRESS LENDING

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BANK OF CANADA (BDC)

City Centre, 380 Wellington Street, Ground Floor, London ON N6A 5B5

Contact: Neil McGrath, Senior Manager Loans

Telephone: (519) 675-3113

Email: neil.magrath@bdc.ca

URL: www.bdc.ca

DESCRIPTION: Express Lending provides commercial loans of up to \$250,000 quickly, with less paperwork and red tape. Loans are available for both new and established businesses. A large factor in the granting of these loans will be personal credit. While the bank's niche is in the manufacturing, wholesale and business services sector, financing in most areas is considered. The loans are assessed and authorized locally.

ELIGIBILITY: Start-ups need to provide a business plan which will be reviewed by the BDC Team Leader. Established businesses should forward 2-3 years of financial statements for review.

OTHER FINANCING SERVICES

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BANK OF CANADA (BDC)

City Centre, 380 Wellington Street, Ground Floor, London ON N6A 5B5

Telephone: (519) 645-4229

Fax: (519) 645-5450

Email: info@bdc.ca

URL: www.bdc.ca

DESCRIPTION: BDC offers customized consulting solutions, e-business solutions, financing to purchase land, buildings and equipment, building construction, term loans for working capital, export assistance and more sophisticated forms of debt such as subordinate financing, venture capital. BDC also provides start-up business loans (co-vision) and rapid loans for small business. Information on each program available on website.

ELIGIBILITY: Information on each program available on website.

BUSINESS FINANCING

CANADA SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING (CSBF) PROGRAM

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: INDUSTRY CANADA

235 Queen Street East, 8th Floor, Ottawa ON K1A 0H5

Telephone: (613) 954-5540

Fax: (613) 952-0290

URL: <http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/site/csbfp-pfpec.nsf/en/Home>

DESCRIPTION: Assists businesses obtain loans of up to \$250,000 to help finance fixed asset needs for new or expanded operations. Loans are made directly by a private sector lender.

ELIGIBILITY: Most small businesses starting up or operating in Canada -- excluding farming, charitable and religious enterprises -- are eligible as long as their estimated annual gross revenues do not exceed \$5 million during the fiscal year in which they apply for a loan. Businesses may be operated as sole proprietorships, partnerships or incorporated companies. The maximum amount a small business can access under the Program is \$250 000. This is the combined total it is allowed for all its CSBF loans and capital leases, including any loans under the earlier Small Business Loans Program.

Commercial term loans can finance up to 90 percent of the cost of the purchase or improvement of real property and immovables; the purchase of leasehold improvements, or improvements to leased property; and the purchase or improvement of new or used equipment

All loans and leases must be paid in full within 10 years.

SMART Program

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: CME and Government of Ontario

Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME)

6725 Airport Road, Suite 200 , Mississauga, ON L4V 1V2

Telephone: (905) 672-3466

Toll Free 877-913-4263

Fax (905) 672-3040

DESCRIPTION: This \$25 million program provides financial support up to \$50,000 to help small and medium sized manufacturers in Ontario improve their productivity so they can compete more effectively in the global economy. It funds projects ranging from implementation of lean manufacturing and design, to process and quality improvement initiatives. Projects that increase energy efficiency and/or reduce environmental impacts are also eligible, as well as projects implementing best practices in information technology and automation.

ELIGIBILITY: The program is open to any manufacturer in Ontario that has been in business at least two years, with 500 or fewer employees worldwide, and between 10 and 200 employees at the facility where the project will be implemented. Applications will be accepted online until May 2009, reviewed by CME and industry experts, and within 45 days, the top-ranked projects will be notified of their selection. SMART Program funding will focus on projects that can be completed within 4 – 6 months of notification. Funding per project is limited to \$50,000 and a maximum of 50% of eligible project costs, which can include capital costs, software licence fees, professional service fees as well as a company's direct labour devoted to the completion and management of the project.

APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING TAX CREDIT

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: ONTARIO MINISTRY OF FINANCE / MINISTRY OF TRAINING, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Ministry of Finance, Corporations Tax Branch, Tax Advisory

33 King Street West, Oshawa, ON L1H 8H5

Telephone: (905) 433-6513 Toll-free: 1-888-JOB-GROW

Fax: (905) 433-6747

DESCRIPTION: The Apprenticeship Training Tax Credit encourages employers to hire and train apprentices in certain skilled trades. Corporations and unincorporated businesses are eligible for a refundable tax credit on wages and salaries paid or payable for services performed after May 18, 2004, by an eligible apprentice during the first 36 months of an apprenticeship.

ELIGIBILITY: The credit is available to businesses, which have permanent establishments in Ontario, are subject to Ontario Income Tax and incur eligible expenditures in respect of an eligible apprentice. Eligible apprentices are in a qualifying skilled trade and must be hired before January 1, 2008. Qualifying skilled trades include designated service, construction, industrial and motive power trades. Corporations are eligible for a 25 per cent refundable tax credit on eligible expenditures incurred with respect to eligible apprentices. For businesses with total payroll costs not exceeding \$400,000, the tax credit rate is increased to 30 per cent. An employer is eligible for a tax credit of up to \$5,000 per year per eligible apprentice to a maximum of \$15,000 over the first 36 months of the apprenticeship. The maximum annual tax credit of \$5,000 is pro-rated for the number of days the apprentice is employed with that employer during the year.

GRADUATE INTERNSHIP

SOURCE: CAREER EDGE

144 Front Street West, Suite 310, Toronto ON M5J 2L7

Toll-free: (888) 507-EDGE (3343)

Telephone: (416) 977-EDGE (3343)

Fax: (416) 977-4090

Email: info@careeredge.ca

URL: www.careeredge.org

DESCRIPTION: Career Edge offers six, nine or twelve months paid internship for university, college and high school graduates in a variety of fields including marketing, human resources, information technology and finance.

ELIGIBILITY: Career Edge Internships are available to any employer that agrees to provide each intern with a professional workplace, a meaningful, entry-level internship position for six, nine or twelve months, and a designated mentor to coach the intern. Organizations interested in providing Internship should apply online to become hosts. Once approved, the host posts its internship opportunities on the Career Edge website, hires the intern of choice from a database of 12,000 potential candidates and becomes responsible for managing the day to day duties of the intern. Career Edge handles the HR and payroll administration for each intern.

Hosting an intern costs about one-third less than hiring a full-time employee for an equivalent job. Interns are placed on the Career Edge payroll and earn \$1,667/month during their internship (before taxes and other deductions). As Career Edge employees, all interns are covered by the appropriate provincial medicare programs and WCB (CSST in Québec). Employers pay a one-time fee to Career Edge which covers the intern's stipend, all related taxes, plus a program delivery fee.

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

JOB CREATION PARTNERSHIPS

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: HUMAN RESOURCES AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (HRSD) CANADA

London Human Resources Centre Canada, 120 Queens Avenue, London ON N6A 4S7

Telephone: (519) 645-5944

Fax: (519) 645-4613

Email: ontario.inquiry@hrdc-drhc.gc.ca

URL: http://142.236.54.114/en/epb/sid/cia/grants/jcp/desc_jcp.shtml

DESCRIPTION: Job Creation Partnerships provide employment insurance eligible persons with work experience on projects developed in partnership with the community. Funding may be provided to employers and co-ordinators to cover such overhead costs as wages and employment-related costs and eligible expenses negotiated with program officials; funding may be provided for capital costs to a maximum of \$1 million per year where such costs are essential to the achievement of objectives; assistance provided for capital costs must be on a cost-shared basis. Projects may be approved for a period no greater than 52 weeks.

ELIGIBLE SPONSORS: Ideas and sponsorship of JCP are anticipated to come from local community partners such as businesses; organizations; individuals; public health and educational institutions; municipal governments; Band/Tribal councils; provincial/territorial government departments and agencies if specified in a federal-provincial/territorial agreement or Memorandum of Understanding, or specifically approved by the Minister of Human Resources Development Canada.

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS: Unemployed individuals for whom a benefit period has been established or whose EI benefits period ended within the last 36 months, or who are re-entering the labour force after having left it to care for newborn or adopted children.

TARGETED WAGE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: HUMAN RESOURCES AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (HRSD) CANADA

London Human Resources Centre Canada, 120 Queens Avenue, London ON N6A 4S7

Telephone: (519) 645-5944

Fax: (519) 645-4613

Email: ontario.inquiry@hrdc-drhc.gc.ca

URL: <http://142.236.54.114/en/sc/skills/targetedwagesubsidies.shtml>

DESCRIPTION: Unemployed Employment Insurance eligible individuals who have difficulty finding work due to employment barriers are assisted in locating an employer who will enter into an agreement with the local Human Resource Centre of Canada office to provide the individual with employment. The agreement with the employer can be approved for up to 78 weeks. A TWS can be used for up to a year and a half, but the average duration is between 26 and 30 weeks. In normal circumstances the wage subsidy should not exceed 60% of the total wages paid to the individual for the period of the agreement.

ELIGIBILITY: Businesses; not-for-profit organizations; municipal, provincial/territorial governments if specified in a federal-provincial/territorial agreement or Memorandum of Understanding or specifically approved by the Minister of Human Resources Development Canada; band/tribal councils; and public health and educational institutions.

WORK SHARING PROGRAM

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: SERVICE CANADA

Telephone: (800) 622-6232

URL: <http://www.canadabusiness.ca>

DESCRIPTION: This Federal Government program is available to assist businesses in dealing with unexpected downturns. The Work Sharing program is a voluntary, Employment Insurance (EI) Part I funded program designed to avert temporary layoffs by providing Employment Insurance Income Benefits to eligible clients who willingly agree to work a temporarily reduced work week. Work Sharing enables employers to retain workers and avoid layoffs during temporary work slowdowns and helps employees maintain their skills

Work-Sharing agreements must be approved by both employee and employer representatives and by the Employment Insurance Commission and can range from 6 to 26 weeks with an extension of up to a maximum of 38 weeks. Work-Sharing Agreements do not affect workers' rights to regular Employment Insurance Benefits if they happen to be laid off after the agreement ends. For more information visit

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM WITH INNOVATIVE SME'S

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (NRC)/INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (IRAP)

200 Town Centre Court, Suite 1101, Scarborough ON M1P 4X8

Toll Free: 877-994-4727 Telephone: (416) 973-4484

Fax: (416) 973-4303

Email: publicinquiries.irap@nrc.ca

URL: http://careers-carrieres.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/programs/sti_e.html

DESCRIPTION: This program provides financial assistance to innovative Canadian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) towards the employment of post-secondary graduates to work on innovation projects in these firms. In addition to meeting the needs of innovative firms, this program will facilitate the advancement of highly skilled young people within a rapidly changing labor market.

ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible for these programs, your firm must be a small or medium-sized enterprise (SME) with less than 500 employees, be incorporated and for profit, wish to enhance its innovation capability, be willing to establish a trusting relationship with NRC-IRAP. Internship last between six to twelve months and are available anywhere in Canada. Host firms will receive financial support (max support is \$15,000) towards the employment of post-secondary graduates, who will work on technical opportunities in the firm and on non-technical but technology-related projects such as research and development, engineering, multi-media, development of new products and processes, market analysis for a new technology-based product, business development related to science and technology activities, improvement of customer services, etc.

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH INTERNSHIP

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (NRC) / INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (IRAP)

200 Town Centre Court, Suite 1101, Scarborough ON•M1P 4X8

Toll Free: 877-994-4727

Telephone: (416) 973-4484

Fax: (416) 973-4303

Email: publicinquiries.irap@nrc.ca

URL: irap-pari.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/english/youthinitiatives_e.html

DESCRIPTION: This program provides financial assistance to innovative Canadian SMEs (small and medium sized enterprises) to hire post-secondary graduates. The graduates will be employed by innovative SMEs that are collaborating in the development of products and processes with commercial potential in conjunction with the National Research Council (NRC) and/or the Communications Research Centre (CRC) of Industry Canada. The graduates will participate in the research and development phase, as well as in the commercialization of these technologies. They may be located in the collaborating NRC or CRC laboratories or in the SMEs. In addition to meeting the needs of innovative firms, this program will facilitate the advancement of highly skilled young people within a rapidly changing labor market. These programs are available from April 2003 to March 2008.

ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible for these programs, your firm must be a small or medium-sized enterprise (SME) with less than 500 employees, be incorporated and for profit, wish to enhance its innovation capability, be willing to establish a trusting relationship with NRC-IRAP.

Internship last between six to twelve months and are available anywhere in Canada. NRC's Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP) is responsible for delivering the program through its 260 Industrial Technology Advisors situated in over 90 communities from coast to coast. Maximum support provided will be \$12,000 to help cover a part of the graduate's salary. Your firm is responsible for covering other expenses such as fringe benefits and overhead costs.

JOB CONNECT

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: ONTARIO MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, TRAINING, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

DESCRIPTION: Job Connect is a provincially funded program to help unemployed job seekers find employment and to assist Ontario employers in recruiting workers. Job Connect agencies throughout the Province work on behalf of employers to find applicants suitable to their workplace needs. If appropriate, a wage subsidy may be approved - up to \$2,400 for up to 26 weeks of work. Each placement includes elements of on-the-job training.

ELIGIBILITY: All employers who operate a business in Ontario and who are ready to provide on-the-job training may benefit from Job Connect. Most placements are 'entry-level' positions but not all – it depends upon the job requirements and the client's skills. Skilled trade and apprenticeship placements are a program priority.

In London and area, the following organizations deliver the job placement component of Job Connect for specific demographic groupings. Every year, hundreds of clients and employers are helped by Job Connect in making the employment connection.

Fanshawe College - Job Connect (Youth 15-24)
Galleria Mall, 114-355 Wellington Street, London ON N6A 3N7
Tel: (519) 432-1220; Fax: (519) 432-2069; URL: www.jobconnect.fanshawec.ca
Email: jobconnect@fanshawec.ca

LACFO Conseil regionale de London/Sarnia (Adult & Youth French Services)
920 rue Huron, London, ON, N5Y 4K4
Tel: (519) 675-3816; Fax: (519) 673-0193; URL: www.acfo-ls.org

London Employment Help Centre (Adult Services 25+)
114 Dundas Street, 2nd Floor, London, ON, N6A 1G1
Tel: (519) 439-0501; Fax: (519) 673-4100; URL: www.lehc.org

Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) (Youth 15-24)
200-114 Dundas Street, London, ON, N6A 1G3
Tel: (519) 432-1112; Fax: (519) 432-2883; URL: www.you.on.ca

Employment Services Elgin (Adult and Youth Services)
408 Talbot Street, St. Thomas, ON, N5P 1B8
Tel: (519) 631-5470; Fax: (519) 633-5854; URL: www.jobselgin.ca

Tri-County Youth Employment Services (Youth 15-24)
96 Tillson Avenue, Tillsonburg, ON, N4G 3A1
Tel: (519) 842-9000; Fax: (519) 842-4727; URL: www.thelivingstoncentre.com

Oxford Youth Employment Service (Youth 15-24)
40 Metcalf Street, Woodstock, ON, N4S 3E7
Tel: (519) 539-8161; Fax: (519) 539-7833

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

SPECIALIZED LANGUAGE TRAINING PILOT PROJECTS

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration

6th floor, 400 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M7A 2R9

Contact: Ms. Coralie D'Souza, Special Communications Assistant

Telephone: (416) 325-6204

Fax: (416) 314-4965

URL: www.ontarioimmigration.ca

DESCRIPTION: The Ontario government is investing in job-specific language training. Launched in 2006, with an initial \$2.2 million of funding, the Specialized Language Training Pilot Projects offer newcomers the opportunity to strengthen their language skills so they can land jobs that reflect their qualifications or function more effectively in jobs they currently hold. Funding will be increased by \$ 4.2 million for the 2008- 2009 school year, bringing the funding increase to school boards for non- credit language training to approximately 22 per cent since 2003.

Fifteen school boards across Ontario are offering occupation-specific language training in one of two ways:

- ✓ Specialized language training for market sectors where there are needs for the skills and experience many newcomers have;
- ✓ English or French-as-a-Second-Language (E/FSL) upgrading for newcomers already in the workforce to improve their language skills at work.

London newcomers interested in this projects should contact Thames Valley District School Board's Continuing Education program and/or access the following link: www.ontarioimmigration.ca/esl/wizard/index.

CANADIAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION (CCC)

151 Yonge Street, 4th Floor, Toronto ON M5C 2W7

Contact: Mr. Ian Brown

Telephone: (416) 973-5081

Fax: (416) 973-5131

URL: www.ccc.ca

DESCRIPTION: As Canada's export contracting agency, the Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC) brings buyers and Canadian exporters together through contracts built on the best possible terms and conditions. Since inception, CCC has provided assistance to thousands of companies from across Canada, helping them close more than \$30 billion in win-win deals with foreign governments and private sector buyers.

CCC offers services for both Canadian exporters and buyers outside of Canada. For Canadian exporters, CCC wraps the Canadian flag around their proposal, providing government-backed guarantee of contract performance. CCC offers a range of pre-contract, contract advisory and post-contract services. CCC can help promote projects, prepare bids or proposals, negotiate and structure contracts, and provide management after the contract is awarded; can also provide access to working capital and competitive foreign exchange rates. Pay only for those services used.

EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CANADA

148 Fullarton Street, Suite 1512, London ON N6A 5P3

Contact: Jim Babirad, Business Development Manager

Telephone: (519) 963-5402

Fax: (519) 963-5407

URL: www.edc.ca

DESCRIPTION: Export services include:

- ✓ Insurance - Expand sales and increase working capital
- ✓ Financing - Offer flexible financing options to buyers
- ✓ Bonding - Obtain bid and performance bonds without impacting line of credit
- ✓ Online Services - Learn more about EXPORT Check and EXPORT Protect
- ✓ Economic & Political Research - Monitor trends in target markets
- ✓ Small Business - Exporting less than \$1 million annually
- ✓ Future Exporters - Assess your export-readiness

EXPORT DEVELOPMENT

EXPORT MARKET ACCESS (EMA)

180 Dundas Street West, Suite 505, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1Z8

Contact: Lesley Cole, International Trade Consultant

Telephone: (416) 482-5222 ext. 239

Email: info@exportaccess.ca

Url: <http://exportaccess.ca/>

DESCRIPTION: Export Market Access : A Global Expansion Program(EMA) is designed to assist small to medium sized organizations to access and expand their growth in new foreign markets that are beyond the United States. The companies with five or more employees and annual sales of \$500,000, or more, may qualify for a grant covering up to 50% of eligible costs incurred to develop export sales. Eligible activities include market research, marketing tools, direct contacts and foreign bidding projects.

For more information, please visit exportaccess.ca.

Export Market Access is an initiative of the *Ontario Chamber of Commerce*, with support and funding from the *Government of Ontario*.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH & EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT (SR & ED)

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA)

Front Street West, Suite 100, Toronto ON M5J 2X6

Telephone: (416) 973-2814

Fax: (416) 952-8334

URL: www.ccra-adrc.gc.ca/taxcredit/sred/menu-e.html

DESCRIPTION: The Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) program is a federal tax incentive program to encourage Canadian businesses of all sizes and in all sectors to conduct research and development (R&D) in Canada that will lead to new, improved, or technologically advanced products or processes. The SR&ED program is the largest single source of federal government support for industrial research and development. Claimants can apply for SR&ED investment tax credits for expenditures such as wages, materials, machinery, equipment, some overhead, and SR&ED contracts.

ELIGIBILITY: Canadian-controlled private corporations with less than \$200,000 in taxable income can receive a refundable investment tax credit (ITC) of 35% of qualifying SR&ED expenditures, to a maximum of \$2 million of expenditures. Most other Canadian corporations, proprietorships, partnerships, and trusts can receive an investment tax credit of 20% of qualifying SR&ED expenditures.

To qualify for the SR&ED program, work must advance the understanding of scientific relations or technologies, address scientific or technological uncertainty, and incorporate a systematic investigation by qualified personnel.

Work that qualifies for SR&ED tax credits includes:

- ✓ Experimental development to achieve technological advancement to create new materials, devices, products, or processes, or improve existing ones;
- ✓ Applied research to advance scientific knowledge with a specific practical application in view;
- ✓ Basic research to advance scientific knowledge without a specific practical application in view;
- ✓ Support work in engineering, design, operations research, mathematical analysis, computer programming, data collection, testing, or psychological research, but only if the work is commensurate with, and directly supports, the eligible experimental development, or applied or basic research

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (IRAP)

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: National Research Council (NRC)

800 Collip Circle, London ON N6G 4X8

Telephone: (519) 430-7096/ 1-877-994-4727

Fax: (519) 430-7032

Email: Sherman.Lang@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

URL: http://irap-pari.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/main_e.html

DESCRIPTION: The NRC Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP) provides a range of both technical and business oriented advisory services along with potential financial support to innovative Canadian small and medium-sized enterprises. The program is delivered by an extensive integrated network of 260 professionals - Industrial Technology Advisors (ITAs) - in more than 100 communities across the country. Working directly with clients at the company's facility, NRC-IRAP supports innovative research and development and commercialization of new products and services. The IRAP portfolio of services has four main components:

- ✓ Technology Expertise and Advisory Services
- ✓ Financial Assistance for R&D activities
- ✓ Networking
- ✓ Partnerships

NRC-IRAP offers 2 kinds of financial assistance:

1. Research and Technology Development Activities - NRC-IRAP provides non-repayable contributions to Canadian SMEs interested in growing by using technology to commercialize services, products and processes in Canadian and international markets. NRC-IRAP also provides mentoring support and invests on a cost-shared basis for research and pre-competitive development technical projects, upon assessment of a project and firm by a team of Industrial Technology Advisors. NRC-IRAP's partner organizations also receive contributions to provide technical and research assistance to Canadian SMEs.

2. Youth Employment Strategy Programs - IRAP's Internship Program with Innovative Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and Collaborative Research Internships Program provide firms with support to hire post-secondary graduates. Both firms and graduates benefit from these programs: firms benefit from the graduate's expertise in a diverse variety of disciplines and graduates gain valuable work experience that will help open the doors for future employment. NRC-IRAP delivers this youth initiative on behalf of the Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy (YES) Programs with funds from the Department of Human Resources and Skills Development (HRSD).

ELIGIBILITY: This credit is available to all public and private corporations. Only expenditures for scientific research and experimental development (SR & ED) carried on in Ontario, for which the taxpayer is eligible for federal (SR & ED) investment tax credit, qualify for the Ontario Innovation Tax Credit (OITC).

INNOVATION DEMONSTRATION FUND

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: Ministry of Research & Innovation

Dalton McGuinty, Premier

Legislative Building, Queen's Park

Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Fax: (416) 325-3745

URL: www.mri.gov.on.ca/english/programs/idf/guidelines.asp

DESCRIPTION: The Innovation Demonstration Fund (IDF) is a discretionary, non-entitlement funding program administered by the Ministry of Research and Innovation that focuses on the commercialization and initial demonstration of globally competitive, innovative technologies, processes and/or products. The objective of the IDF is to help companies in their efforts to commercialize innovative technologies in Ontario.

IDF will provide financial support covering up to 50 percent of eligible costs for approved Eligible Projects that have as their goal commercialization. The funding potentially available under IDF ranges from a minimum of \$100,000 to a maximum of \$4,000,000 per project total. In addition, Ministry funding for those eligible projects will be limited to not exceed \$2,000,000 per year, per project.

ONTARIO INNOVATION TAX CREDIT (OITC)

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: Ministry of Finance

Corporations Tax Branch, Ministry of Finance, 33 King Street West PO Box 622, Oshawa ON L1H 8H8

Toll free: (800) 263-7965

Telephone: (905) 433-6539

The OITC is a 10% refundable tax credit for qualifying public and private corporations (prior to May 5, 1999 only qualifying Canadian-controlled private corporations were eligible) having a permanent establishment in Ontario.

Corporations are eligible to claim the full OITC where their Ontario taxable paid-up capital and federal taxable income in the preceding taxation year do not exceed \$25 million and \$200,000 respectively. The annual qualifying expenditure limit of \$2,000,000 is progressively reduced for those corporations whose taxable paid-up capital or "adjusted taxable paid-up capital" in the preceding taxation year, is greater than \$25 million but less than \$50 million, and whose federal taxable income is more than \$200,000 but less than \$400,000 in the preceding taxation year. If the corporation is part of an associated group, the taxable paid-up capital and federal taxable income of those corporations must also be included in the determination of the annual qualifying expenditure limit.

ELIGIBILITY: This credit is available to all public and private corporations. Only expenditures for scientific research and experimental development (SR & ED) carried on in Ontario, for which the taxpayer is eligible for federal (SR & ED) investment tax credit, qualify for the Ontario Innovation Tax Credit (OITC).

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

R&D SUPER ALLOWANCE

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (MEDT)

Contact: Dr. Maurice Bitran, Executive Director

Telephone: (416) 977-7020 ext. 237

Email: mbitran@ordcf.on.ca

DESCRIPTION/ELIGIBILITY: The R&D Super Allowance provides additional deductions for corporate income tax purposes for qualifying R&D performed in Ontario.

For corporations which are not Canadian-controlled private corporations, Ontario provides a 25 per cent additional deduction on qualifying R&D expenditures. For Canadian-controlled private corporations (CCPCs), Ontario provides a 35 per cent additional deduction for qualifying R&D expenditures in Ontario.

To foster incremental R&D spending, the Super Allowance further enriches the allowed deduction. For incremental expenditures, the 25 per cent and 35 per cent additional deductions are increased by 50 per cent to 37.5 per cent and 52.5 per cent respectively. Incremental expenditures are determined by the amount that R&D expenditures in a year exceeds the average R&D expenditures over the previous three years (i.e., three-year moving average).

PROOF OF PRINCIPLE RESEARCH FOR ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: Ontario Centre for Environmental Technology Advancement

2070 Hadwen Rd, Unit 201A

Mississauga, Ontario, L5K 2C9

Phone: 905-822-4133

Email: oceta@oceta.on.ca

URL: www.oceta.on.ca

Description: Proof of Principle Research for Environmental Technologies is a new funding program to accelerate the commercialization of Canadian-made environmental technologies for the research and development efforts of small and medium sized companies in Ontario. Each project will involve collaborations between the company leading the development of the technology, an end user, and a university or college. Precarn Incorporated will provide \$300,000 over three years, which will be matched by OCETA and OCE, together. Contributions by participating companies will augment the total investment to approximately \$1 million. Individual companies will be able to participate by providing about one third of the total for a project valued up to \$100,000.

IRAP FUNDING FOR ONTARIO COMPANIES TO SUPPORT ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE VERIFICATION

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: The National Research Council of Canada (NRC), through the Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP), Ontario Region and Ontario Centre for Environmental Technology Advancement (OCETA)

2070 Hadwen Rd, Unit 201A

Mississauga, Ontario, L5K 2C9

Phone: 905-822-4133 x228

Fax: 905-822-3558

URL: www.etvcanada.ca and www.oceta.on.ca

Description: The National Research Council of Canada (NRC), through the Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP), Ontario Region, has signed a Contribution Agreement today with the Ontario Centre for Environmental Technology Advancement (OCETA), to provide a total of \$100,000 in contributions to Ontario-based SMEs towards the cost of pursuing ETV verification and related pre-verification activities or projects. The agreement runs until March 31, 2009. A total of \$40,000 is available on a first-come first-served basis up until March 31, 2008.

The funding formula was designed to allow for a three-way cost sharing between the technology developer, NRC-IRAP, and OCETA. The funding will support the following services: Market Preview, Technology Assessment, and Independent Performance Verification. The maximum contributions available from NRC-IRAP for the services are \$5,000 for the first two services and \$15,000 for verification. These contributions would be made available to SMEs who are currently IRAP clients or new clients who fit the general eligibility criteria for IRAP support.

The OCETA portion of the matching one-third contribution will be provided from the Ontario Research Commercialization Program (ORCP) that OCETA is administering on behalf of the Province of Ontario.

The maximum total percentage contribution from IRAP and OCETA (or other government sources, including SR&ED tax credits) is capped at 75% of the cost of any individual project.

Individual projects must be in the environmental area or involve technologies that have a positive environmental benefit. SMEs interested in pursuing support of their innovative projects should first contact their local IRAP advisor for eligibility discussions then contact Steve Guerin, General Manager of ETV Canada, at 905-822-4133 x228 or by e-mail to sguerin@oceta.on.ca to discuss specific services relevant to the SME's particular needs/situation, and potential financial support. Information on the scope of the three services will be provided

to Ontario IRAP ITAs upon request.

OTHER INCENTIVES

ACCELERATE ONTARIO

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: •The Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems (MITACS Inc.) with the financial support of the Government of Ontario

Simon Fraser University

TASC 2, Room 9904

8888 University Drive

Burnaby, British Columbia V5A 1S6

Phone: 778-782-3439

Fax: 778-782-6657

Ontario contact: Eric Bosco

Ontario contact e-mail: ebosco@mitacs.ca

URL: www.mitacs.ca or www.mitacsinternships.ca

Description: ACCELERATE Ontario connects Ontario companies with the high-quality research expertise within the province's universities. Graduate student interns, under the supervision of a faculty supervisor, undertake a four or eight month project which investigates a research challenge experienced by a partner company.

One half of the intern's time is spent on site with the partner company, interacting with staff, collecting data and furthering their understanding of the challenge. The remainder of the intern's time is spent at their university, developing a new tool, technique, methodology or solution to the partner company's research challenge.

Companies benefit from accessing the vast intellectual capital within the province's universities while connecting with potential future employees. Graduate interns benefit from the opportunity to apply their research skills to real-world challenges.

ONTARIO POWER AUTHORITY'S HIGH PERFORMANCE NEW CONSTRUCTION (HPNC) PROGRAM

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: •The Ontario Power Authority

120 Adelaide Street West,

Toronto, ON M5H 1T1

Phone: 1-888-672-4762

E-mail: hpnc@enbridge.com

URL: www.hpnc.ca

Description: Ontario Power Authority's High Performance New Construction (HPNC) program makes it easy to go green. Builders and architects will receive generous incentives and their clients will realize lower energy costs for achieving reduced kilowatt demand in excess of Code when building commercial, industrial or agricultural structures.

Visit www.hpnc.ca for more details.

NEXT GENERATION JOBS FUND

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: The Ministry of Economic Development and Trade
8th Floor, Hearst Block
900 Bay St.
Toronto ON M7A 2E1
Phone: 1-866-668-4249 or 1-866-ONT4BIZ
Fax: (416) 325-6688
E-mail: info@edt.gov.on.ca
URL: www.ontariocanada.com

Description: The Next Generation of Jobs Fund is a five-year, \$1.15 billion strategy that can help innovative companies take the lead in worldwide markets which offer long-term growth potential. It will support a wide range of 'new economy' investment projects including:

- ✓ green auto research, parts production and assembly
- ✓ clean fuels research, development and commercialization
- ✓ environmental technologies, clean industries and bio-economy
- ✓ advanced health technologies
- ✓ digital media and information and communications technology
- ✓ pharmaceutical research and manufacturing
- ✓ financial services

For more information about the Next Generation of Jobs Fund, please visit www.ontariocanada.com

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INVESTMENT STRATEGY

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: Advanced Manufacturing Investment Strategy (AMIS), The Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Sector Competitiveness Branch
6th Floor, 611A, Hearst Block
900 Bay St.
Toronto ON M7A 2E1
Phone: (416) 325-6867
Fax: (416) 314-7014
E-mail: AMIS@ontario.ca
URL: www.ontariocanada.com

Description: On August 18th 2008, the Ontario Government announced the re-launch of the Advanced Manufacturing Investment Strategy (AMIS). The \$500-million AMIS program provides repayable loans, interest free for up to five years, to encourage companies to invest in leading-edge technologies and processes. Significant enhancements to the AMIS program are in effect immediately:

- ✓ Loan component increased to 30 per cent (previously 10 per cent)
- ✓ Reduced thresholds of 50 jobs created/retained or \$10 million invested (previously 100 jobs/\$25 million)
- ✓ Continuous intake of applications (no need to wait for the next call for proposals).

These measures make AMIS more user-friendly, will enable more companies to benefit from the program, and offer greater access to capital at a lower cost.

In most cases, companies will receive a decision within 45 days of submitting a complete application.

Not sure if your project will meet the AMIS program objectives and criteria?

Interested companies are invited to meet with the AMIS team, without obligation, to discuss a potential project proposal or conduct a pre-assessment review of a project application prior to formal submission.

OTHER INCENTIVES

STRATEGIC AEROSPACE AND DEFENSE INITIATIVE

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: Industrial Technologies Office - Industry Canada

235 Queen Street, 7th Floor

Ottawa ON K1A 0H5

Phone: 1-800-266-7531

Fax: (613) 954-5649

E-mail: info@ito.gc.ca

URL: http://ito.ic.gc.ca/epic/site/ito-oti.nsf/en/h_00022e.html

Description: The Strategic Aerospace and Defence Initiative (SADI) has three main objectives:

- ✓ to encourage strategic research and development (R&D) that will result in innovation and excellence in new products and services;
- ✓ to enhance the competitiveness of Canadian A&D companies;
- ✓ to foster collaboration between research institutes, universities, colleges and the private sector.

The Strategic Aerospace and Defence Initiative provides repayable support for strategic industrial research and pre-competitive development projects in the aerospace, defence, space and security industries. Strategic projects are those that focus on next generation products/services, build on Canadian strengths, enable Canadian companies to participate in major platforms, and assist in meeting Canada's international obligations (e.g. the Joint Strike Fighter). For more information, visit http://ito.ic.gc.ca/epic/site/ito-oti.nsf/en/h_00022e.html

THE PRECARN INDUSTRIAL T-GAP

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: Precarn Incorporated

510-1525 Carling Avenue

Ottawa, ON K1Z 8R9

Phone: 613-727-9507 ext 231

E-mail: Schwartzburg@precarn.ca

Description: The Industrial Technology-Gap Assistance Program (T-GAP) focuses on the gap between technology innovation and commercialization. The program is designed for very small and start-up companies. This is an open competition with no specific deadline date. Applications are accepted on a first-come first-served basis.

Precarn is seeking immediate applications to this program. \$500,000 has been allocated for projects costing up to a maximum \$60,000 in Precarn contribution. Precarn funding will be up to 75% of the total eligible project costs. The average Precarn contribution is expected to be about \$40,000. Once a project is approved, 75% of the Precarn funds will be made available upon contract signing and the remaining 25% will be paid upon project completion and

delivery of a final report. Full details can be found on Precarn's web site at:

<http://www.precarn.ca/ProgramsFunding/COREFundingPrograms/TGAP/index.html>

THE ONTARIO MARKET READINESS STRATEGY

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: •The Ontario Centres of Excellence, MaRS and the National Angel Organization
156 Front Street West, Suite 200
Toronto, Ontario M5J 2L6
General Phone: (416) 861-1092
Toll Free: 1(866) 759-6014 x 3229
Fax: (416) 971-7164
Contact: Trish Barrow
E-mail: trish.barrow@oce-ontario.org
URL: www.oce-ontario.org

Description: The Ontario Centres of Excellence, MaRS and the National Angel Organization deliver this program jointly. The program is supposed to provide initial investment in new technology companies and help to match these companies with the expertise they need to move to the next level.

The Market Readiness Program (MRP) has two components: the Investment Accelerator Fund (IAF) and the Business Mentorship and Entrepreneurship Program (BMEP).

The Investment Accelerator Fund (IAF) is an early stage seed fund managed by the Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) that is designed to help Ontario technology companies bring their products and services to market. Through early stage investment of up to \$500K in the form of a convertible debenture (loan) in return for a nominal equity position, the IAF helps launch high potential ventures that are attractive to follow-on investors.

In addition to critical seed investment that is often challenging for early stage companies to secure, the IAF also provides access to valuable services such as market research and business mentoring through the Business Mentorship and Entrepreneurship Program (BMEP). BMEP consists of \$17 million dedicated to entrepreneurship education and training activities, providing resources to companies for mentoring activities. For more information on BMEP, please visit www.marsdd.com.