

Government Funding for Export & Market Expansion

Mentor Works Ltd. is dedicated to accelerating small businesses' growth through government funding support. We create and implement customized funding strategies and assist with the application process to maximize each company's funding potential. Through government funding, we extend cash flow to serve your top strategic initiatives.

Note: For all project-based grants and loans, please do not begin your project spend until you are approved for funding.

CanExport: Up to 50% of Eligible Costs to a Maximum of \$50,000 per Grant

Virtual Trade Shows, Marketing/SEO & Translation Costs

CanExport provides direct grant support to Canadian businesses seeking to develop new export opportunities and markets, particularly high-growth priority markets and sectors, by covering a portion of eligible sales and marketing activities.

Eligibility: Incorporated Canadian for-profit businesses with <500 FTE employees and \$100,000-\$100M in Canadian annual revenue. Target markets must represent <\$100,000 or 10% of total sales.

Timeline: Applications are currently open. Applicants must be approved before incurring expenses. Verdicts take up to 60 business days. Applicants can have one active application at a time.

Project Themes: Virtual trade shows, digital advertising, SEO, marketing materials creation, consultant costs for expert advice (i.e. business, tax, legal, e-commerce), and market research. Funding for activities requiring physical presence, such as in-person trade shows are potential opportunities.

CanExport Innovation: Up to 75% to a Maximum \$75,000 Grant

International Travel and Meeting to Secure a R&D Collaboration

Reduces the cost of research collaboration development with international partners. Companies traveling to foreign markets to secure and formalize the conditions of a potential research partnership can receive grants to offset travel, meeting, and accommodation expenses. Must not have a formal partnership in place before the trip.

Eligibility: Dedicated to innovation, science and technology, <\$50 million in annual sales and <500 employees.

Timeline: For future business travel only. Approximately 8 weeks required for application review.

Project Themes: Travel and administration associated with the formalization of an international research and development or technology commercialization project.

Southwestern Ontario Development Fund/Eastern Ontario Development Fund

Up to 15% Funding for High-Growth Expansion Projects

The Business Stream supports high potential growth in [select Ontario regions](#) to invest in new facilities and equipment that leads to job creation, revenue growth, (domestic & abroad), productivity improvements, innovation, and broad regional economic impact. Repayable loan: Up to 15% of project costs to a maximum of \$5,000,000. (Up to 30% to a max of \$500,000 of the loan may be forgiven if company meets project impacts). Grant funding for rural businesses: Up to 15% to a maximum of \$500,000.

Eligibility: For profit businesses incorporated 3+ years in eligible SWODF/EODF regions. Advanced manufacturing, life sciences, and processing industries. Minimum project budget of \$500k+ OR \$200k+ in rural regions for SMEs.

Timeline: Applications are currently open from until April 21, 2022.

Project Themes: Eligible project costs include materials, equipment and machinery, R&D labour, training and talent, etc.

Jobs and Growth Fund: Up to 50% to a Maximum of \$10 Million

Job Creation and Long-Term Growth Activities

The Jobs and Growth Fund will support projects that contribute to near-term job creation and long-term resilience through various focus areas. This program is available through both FedDev Ontario and Western Diversification (BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba) for applicants in those regions.

Eligibility: Businesses, including co-operatives, non-profits, & economy development partners in eligible provinces.

Timelines: Application accepted on ongoing basis. All projects must be completed prior to March 31, 2024.

Project Themes: Support the transition to a green economy, foster an inclusive recovery, preserve Canada's competitiveness and future-proof SMEs through digital adoption, and strengthen the capacity in critical sectors.

Sector-Focus Hiring Grants: Max \$12,000-\$15,000 or 50% Grant

Hiring a Youth Post-Secondary Graduate

Full-time work placement, minimum of 3 or 4 months, but must end on or before the end of February/March depending on the sector. Sector specific funding includes funding for food/beverage companies. If you have a candidate, please ensure they are not on payroll before you are accepted for funding.

Note: Availability of funding is subject to change throughout the year based on awarded applications.

Eligibility: Graduate must have a post-secondary diploma, be between 15-30 years old, Canadian citizen/resident, out of school, and work minimum of 30 hours per week.

Timeline: Internships must be 3 or 4+ months. Funding launches Q2 of each year.

Candidate Focus: Must provide relevant work experience to the candidate, related to their post-secondary area of study. Some program variants require specific position types (ie. web developer).

Internship Hiring Grants: Up to 75% Payroll Coverage up to \$7.5k

Hiring Post-Secondary Students for Co-op Placements

Wage subsidy towards a current post-secondary student while they complete a paid internship placement over a full semester. Program fit depends on intern's area of study, role, and the employer's industry.

Note: Availability of funding is subject to change throughout the year based on awarded applications.

Eligibility: Businesses can be in any industry, including bio-economy, financial technologies, advanced manufacturing, aerospace, clean technology, and agri-food industries.

Timeline: Internships can be for a maximum of 4 months.

Candidate Focus: Candidate must be a Permanent Resident, Canadian citizen, or have refugee status, and must be enrolled at a post-secondary institution.

Get Started - Book a Funding Discovery Session:

Click the name of your region's contact to book your free funding discovery session.

- Southwestern Ontario: [Jeff Dumart](mailto:jeffd@mentorworks.ca), jeffd@mentorworks.ca, 1-888-599-3111 x115
- Southwestern Ontario & Toronto: [Mustafa Aydin](mailto:mustafa@mentorworks.ca), mustafa@mentorworks.ca, 1-888-599-3111 x140
- Toronto & Eastern Ontario: [Sara Hipson](mailto:sara@mentorworks.ca), sara@mentorworks.ca, 1-888-599-3111 x141
- Southwestern Ontario: [Bernadeen McLeod](mailto:bernadeen@mentorworks.ca), bernadeen@mentorworks.ca, 1-888-599-3111 x98