

Government Programs

Southwestern Ontario Development Fund (SWODF): The fund is a discretionary, non-entitlement program with limited funding. Under the business stream, the fund may provide up to 15% of eligible project costs to a maximum grant of \$1.5 million. Projects must be a minimum of \$500K over 4 years maximum. As well, for companies with greater than 20 employees, a minimum of 10 new, skilled and long-term sustainable jobs must be created. For project investments of \$10+ million that create 50+ jobs, funding may be available in the form of a secured repayable loan, to a maximum of \$5 million in provincial support.

- *Ministry of Economic Development and Growth*
- *Helen Hillman, Senior Business Advisor, Kitchener Office, 519-571-6065, E-mail: Helen.Hillman@ontario.ca*
- *Website: <http://www.ontario.ca/business-and-economy/southwestern-ontario-development-fund>*

FedDev Ontario: FedDev's programs will support economic and community development, innovation, and economic diversification, with contributions to communities, businesses and non-profit organizations. Programs include: [Investing in Business Growth and Productivity](#), [Investing in Business Innovation](#), [Investing in Commercialization Partnerships](#) and [Investing in Regional Diversification](#).

- *Kitchener (Headquarters) 1-866-593-5505*
- *Website: <http://www.feddevontario.gc.ca/eic/site/723.nsf/eng/home>*

Jobs and Prosperity Fund: The Jobs and Prosperity Fund is providing \$2.5 billion over 10 years to enhance productivity, bolster innovation and grow Ontario's exports. The fund has three distinct streams: *The New Economy Stream:* to build R&D capacity, improve private-sector productivity, performance and competitiveness, and support innovative businesses in expanding their market. *The Strategic Partnerships Stream:* to help entrepreneurs, companies, research institutions, customers and investors work together to strengthen Ontario firms and our ability to compete globally. *The Food and Beverage Growth Fund:* to support food, beverage and bioproduct manufacturing projects that will help create and retain jobs, strengthen supply chains, increase market access, and enhance innovation and productivity.

- *New Economy Stream - 416-326-7116, Email: NEStream@Ontario.ca*
- *Strategic Partnerships Stream - 416-326-6282, Email: SPStream@ontario.ca*
- *Food and Beverage Growth Fund - 877-424-1300, Email: FbGF@ontario.ca*
- *Forestry Growth Fund - 844-573-9017, Email: FGF@ontario.ca*
- *Website: <http://www.ontario.ca/business-and-economy/jobs-and-prosperity-fund>*

Achieving Innovation & Manufacturing Excellence (AIME): Funding to southern Ontario manufacturers to offset the costs of training expenses related to supporting innovation and achieving a competitive advantage. Supportable projects may include developing new engineering skills, training in the use of new software, hardware or other tools necessary to support innovation; and training to adopt and adapt new technologies, new manufacturing methods or any other area of business that will make a southern Ontario manufacturing company more competitive in the global market place. The AIME Global program contributes up to 50 percent of eligible project costs to a maximum of \$50,000 per business.

- *Yves Landry Foundation, 1-866-232-4411*
- *Website: <http://www.yveslandryfoundation.com/programs/aime-initiative/aime-global/aime-global-english/>*

Canada-Ontario Job Grant (COJG): Direct financial support for employers who wish to purchase training for their workforce. In this grant program, employers choose the individuals they would like to have trained, and the training that meets their workforce development needs. Supports eligible training costs up to a maximum of \$10,000 per grant, with additional flexibility for small employers.

- *Employment Ontario Contact Centre 1-800-387-5656*
- *Website: <http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/cojg/index.html>*

Opportunities Fund Wage Subsidy Program: Designed to support any unemployed Canadian who self identifies as having a disability or impairment to becoming employed or re-employed. Part time hours are acceptable with this program, but position must be hourly paid or salaried job with regular deductions.

- *Service Canada - Brantford 519-751-6500*
- *Website: <http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/of/>*

Low Carbon Innovation Fund: Fund to help researchers, entrepreneurs and companies create and commercialize new, globally competitive, low-carbon technologies that will help Ontario meet its GHG emissions reductions targets. The **Technology Validation** stream will fund proof of concept or prototype projects from eligible Ontario companies or academic organizations. Further details are expected to be announced in Fall 2017.

- *BrantJobsMinistry of Research, Innovation and Science - Commercialization and Scale-Up Services Branch*
- *Email: lowcarboninnovationfund@ontario.ca*
- *Website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/low-carbon-innovation-fund>*

Government Programs (continued)

Brant Employment Centre (formerly Job Connect): Ontario employers looking to hire (full or part time) and provide on-the-job training may receive a training subsidy.

- *Employment Ontario through St. Leonard's Community Services, 519-756-7665*

Aboriginal Labour Force Development Circle (A.L.F.D.C.): Employment and Training services for Aboriginal people in Ontario.

- *Aboriginal Labour Force Development Circle (A.L.F.D.C.) – Heather Johnston, 416-925-1331*
- *Website: http://alfdc.on.ca/site/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=30&Itemid=46*

Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation Employment and Training: Wage subsidy and employment incentive programs for New Credit Band Members.

- *Mississaugas of the New Credit Employment and Training – Tabitha King, 905-768-7963*
- *Website: <http://www.greatsn.com/>*

Grand River Employment & Training Wage Subsidy Program: Targeted training assistance for Six Nations Band Members: Financial assistance amount subject to employer's business plan.

- *G.R.E.A.T. – Laurie Froman (Executive Director), 519-445-2222; Email: laurie@greatsn.com*
- *Website: <http://www.greatsn.com/programs.aspx>*

Co-operative Education Tax Credit: Up to \$1,000 per co-op placement for recognized post-secondary Ontario school program.

- *Ministry of Finance 1-800-263-7965*
- *Website: <http://www.rev.gov.on.ca/english/credit/cetc/>*

Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Tax Incentive Program: Canadian controlled private corporations with less than \$200,000 of taxable income can receive a refundable investment tax credit of up to 35% (enriched rate) for qualifying SR&ED expenses. An enriched refundable claim has a limit of \$2 million. Other Canadian corporations, proprietorships, trusts can receive an investment tax credit of up to 20% for qualifying SR&ED expenditures.

- *Toronto Centre Tax Services Office, 416-973-1717*
- *Website: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/txcrdt/sred-rsde/menu-eng.html>*

Youth Entrepreneur Program (YEP) - New Hire: Financial assistance for SMEs with 500 employees or less who want to hire highly qualified graduates with specific skills/experience. For an internship term of six months, IRAP will provide a maximum support of \$30,000 to help cover a part of the intern's salary.

- *IRAP Sandra Kodis 519-429-0170*
- *Website: http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/irap/services/youth_initiatives.html*

Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP): Financial assistance for SMEs with 500 employees or less for a period of up to 36 months to assist in bringing new products, processes and services to market.

- *IRAP Sandra Kodis 519-429-0170*
- *Website: http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/irap/services/financial_assistance.html*

Apprenticeship Training Tax Credit (ATTC): A refundable tax credit available to employers who hire and train apprentices in certain skilled trades. The ATTC is based on salaries and wages paid to an apprentice. The maximum credit for each apprenticeship is \$10,000 per year. The maximum credit over the first 48-month period of the apprenticeship is \$40,000.

- *Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), 1-800-267-6999*
- *Website: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/bsnss/tpcs/crprtns/prv/on/ppnticshp-eng.html>*

Ontario Innovation Tax Credit (OITC): 8% refundable tax credit for public or private corporations with permanent establishment in Ontario. Tax credit for scientific research and experimental development (SR&ED) expenditures carried on in Ontario by the corporation. The OITC is calculated as 8% of qualifying SR&ED expenses. Qualifying expenses are: 100% of current expenses. The maximum annual credit is \$300,000.

- *Ministry of Revenue, 1-866-668-8297*
- *Website: <http://www.rev.gov.on.ca/english/credit/oitc/>*

Graduated Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (GAGE): Provides payments to employers who hire (sponsor) and train apprentices in 130 eligible trades. Eligible employers will receive an automatic payment as their apprentice completes each level of training and when they achieve their Certificate of Apprenticeship or Certificate of Qualification. Eligible employers can receive up to \$19,200 per apprentice over the period of the apprenticeship. This includes a \$500 bonus for eligible employers for each completion milestone an apprentice finishes if the apprentice is from an underrepresented group..

- *Ontario Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development, 1-800-387-5656*
- *Website: <http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/pepg/graduated-apprenticeship-grant.html>*