

Apprenticeship Wage Subsidy

Description

The Apprenticeship Wage Subsidy (AWS) program provides apprentices across all levels of apprenticeship with the opportunity to gain work experience and to support their progression to journeyperson certification by providing a wage subsidy to employers who hire them.

Information for Employers

The program is open to employers in the private and non-profit sectors. All employers must be in “Good Standing” with the Newfoundland and Labrador Registry of Companies and Deeds and have a valid HST business number.

To participate in the AWS program, employers must sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Apprenticeship and Trades Certification Division, demonstrating that:

- They have a qualified journeyperson on site in the appropriate trade;
- They will offer relevant work experience to the apprentice; and
- They will follow all required regulations under the apprenticeship program.

Employers deemed eligible under this program shall:

- Follow all required regulations as outlined by the Apprenticeship and Trades Certification Division; and
- Release the apprentice from employment to participate in Class Call for training.

Information for Individuals

The program is open to both Employment Insurance (EI) eligible and non-EI eligible apprentices.

Participants must be eligible to register with the Department as an apprentice. This means they have successfully completed a pre-employment course in an eligible trade, that is, one requiring 4,500 hours or more of combined training and work hours.

Priority will be given to:

- Women apprentices;
- Persons with disabilities;
- Visible minority; and
- Other under-represented groups.

Apprentices are only eligible to be subsidized for two levels of their apprenticeship certification training under the AWS program.

Other criteria may apply.

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Financial Assistance

The program provides a wage subsidy of 75% up to a maximum subsidy of \$14 per hour for apprentices at all levels.

Funding is provided on an agreement-by-agreement basis and may be subject to budget availability.

Position Eligibility

The following positions shall **not** be eligible:

- A position that displaces an employee in a same or similar position who is on lay off or awaiting notice of recall;
- A position for an apprentice currently on the employer's payroll, unless the apprentice is participating under an existing AWS Agreement and moving to the next stage of apprenticeship and eligible for subsidy;
- A position where the apprentice was hired prior to official approval from the Department, unless participating under an existing AWS agreement; or
- A position where the apprentice is an immediate family member of the employer.

How to Apply

All organizations applying to the program must first register with the Department's LaMPSS system through a one-time registration process at:

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/ipgs/employer-registration/>

Once registration is complete, a password and user ID will be provided. This enables organizations to apply for and monitor all Departmental program agreements online.

For further information on how to apply, and the eligibility requirements, please visit:

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/ipgs/lmda/apprenticeship/>

For additional information:

Call: 1-800-563-6600

Email: EmploymentPrograms@gov.nl.ca