



Co-operative Education Program (Coop) 2023-2024 Call for Proposals

Objectives

The Co-op has the following objectives:

- to promote the benefits of education as key to labour market participation
- to support the development and enhancement of essential employability skills among First Nations youth such as communication skills, problem solving and working with others
- to introduce youth to a variety of career options
- to support the provision of mentored school-based work and study opportunities such as co-operative education and internships
- to help First Nations youth overcome barriers to employment

Expected results

Key expected results of the Co-op are:

- enhanced employability skills for participating First Nations youth
- increased awareness of the benefits of education
- enhanced ability to make employment-related decisions
- improved attitudes toward the transition from school to work
- increased ability of First Nations youth to participate in the labour market

Eligible recipients

Eligible recipients for co-operative education activities are First Nations schools on reserve with grades 7 to 12.

Eligible participants

Co-operative education eligible participants are First Nations youth in grades 7 to 12, enrolled in and attending a First Nations school who are ordinarily resident on reserve.

Activities

The key activities of Co-op are, but not limited to:

- job shadowing opportunities for participating students
- career promotion workshops, visits, or other activities
- role model/guest speaker presentations to promote careers and education planning
- student training to promote job access, for example, First Aid, Workplace Safety, Drivers Education, etc.
- training experiences that support youth in acquiring skills needed for work placements
- career development information, including awareness and support activities like career fairs and leadership projects
- career planning and counselling activities

Eligible Expenditures

For co-operative education placements and internships

- salaries for teachers, COOP or internship coordinators, career counsellors and other staff directly related to the COOP program delivery and not already covered by existing ISC funding, including BCTEA Core funding or elementary/secondary education or Band support/Tribal council funding.
- Other necessary costs directly related to a work placement including, but not limited to, criminal record check, uniforms required by the workplace, person safety gear work boots, safety hats up to a maximum of \$300 per participant
- actual costs for special equipment and facilities to accommodate the needs of a disabled individual, up to a maximum of \$3,000 per participant
- staff training directly related to co-operative education
- other incidental co-op and internship placement costs including insurance for students during their co-op or internship placement
- travel for co-op coordinator/teacher to meet employers
- participant costs such as living expenses, travel costs and room and board.

Ineligible expenditures

- salaries or wages for students
- dependent care or daycare
- office infrastructure of equipment purchases such as computer and software
- Capital costs for the construction of a building (other than small repairs or renovations to support the participation of persons with disabilities) or the purchase of land or buildings

Proposal Process

Proposals are selected on the basis of meeting the program objectives. Applicants must submit a detailed proposal for the activities to be undertaken over the course of the agreement, clearly stating how the proposal activities will further the objectives and expected results of the program.

Project costs must be explained in the Program Budget breakdown page using a realistic assessment of estimated costs and a justification of the level of funding requested that meets with program guidelines. Submit by email to co-oped@fnesc.ca no later than **September 29, 2023**.

Please note: only submissions made using the provided proposal form from FNEsc will be considered.

Reporting Requirements

2023-2024 Cooperative Education final reports are due no later than **Friday, March 15, 2024**. All funds must be expended and all activities completed by March 31, 2024 – report template will be distributed closer to date.

Proposals Due: Friday, September 29, 2023

Submit to: co-oped@fnesc.ca

For any questions, please contact co-oped@fnesc.ca

Final Reports Due: Friday, March 15, 2024