

How much is the grant for?

- 💡 We typically fund up to \$125,000 per project; with some exceptions, depending on the nature of the innovation.
- 💡 If you are planning to submit an RFP response in excess of \$125,000, sufficient justification should be provided in the application.
- 💡 We assess budgets very carefully to determine potential impact and what is reasonably required to achieve the stated objectives.
- 💡 All proposed expenses must adhere to Government of Canada guidelines as outlined by the [Treasury Board](#).

How long will the funding be for?

- 💡 Funded projects can last up to 12 months, and must conclude no later than October 31st, 2024.

Who is eligible to apply?

- 💡 All applicant organizations must be registered with the Canadian government.
- 💡 No applications from individuals or unregistered organizations will be accepted.

Do applicants have to be CASE members?

- 💡 No. We want to expand to under-served communities and populations, so the call will be open to all to encourage wider representation.

Can more than one organization apply jointly?

- 💡 Partnerships are encouraged; however there must be a clearly defined lead who will sign the funding agreement and be responsible for all deliverables.
- 💡 If collaborators are listed in the application, support letters must be included and signed by an executive of the organization.
- 💡 It is important to indicate in the application the exact role of each collaborator listed and their importance to the proposed project.

Can we submit more than one application?

- 💡 Yes, there is no restriction on the number of applications that can be submitted by an organization.
- 💡 We will consider funding more than one application from an organization if the Selection Committee decides, provided there is adequate funding.

What do you consider to be innovative?

- 💡 Innovation does not just mean testing a brand new idea. It can also mean:
 - Novel ways of partnering and collaborating
 - Adapting proven tools and services to a new, previously under-served demographic
 - Expansion of tools and services to remote and/or minority language communities
 - Expansion of tested innovations on a regional or national scale
- 💡 When developing a proposal, be sure to research what others are already doing. It may be that your innovation has already been developed in another area and/or there may be an opportunity for a potential partnership/collaboration.
- 💡 For more information on innovation in supported employment, consider signing up for our free, self-directed, Nature of Innovation course by contacting learn@supportedemployment.ca.

What kinds of innovations do you fund?

- 💡 The Innovation Lab has identified the following focus areas on which we concentrate our funding:
 - Enhanced employment opportunities / participation
 - Transformative technologies
 - New trends in employment supports
 - Public education and awareness
 - Engaged underserved / equity-deserving populations
 - Raised profile of supported employment services
- 💡 Innovations should be for the use of the supported employment sector, rather than profit a single organization. For example, we will fund promising start-up enterprises so long as the model can be shared and replicated elsewhere.
- 💡 For more information, check out our [current partners and projects](#).

What are your funding priorities?

- 💡 Proposed projects must clearly address one or more of the following priorities:
 - Enhanced or increased employment for jobseekers experiencing disability
 - Successful transitions from high school to employment for youth experiencing disability

- Enhanced public awareness of the benefits to workplaces and hiring practices that are inclusive of individuals experiencing disability
- Enhance the profile and uptake of supported employment services

Who are your target groups?

- 🗨 End users of the proposed innovations should typically be one or more of the following:
 - Employers in strategic sectors
 - Supported employment service providers
 - Community organizations
 - Job-Seekers experiencing disability with a focus on:
 - ✓ Youth
 - ✓ Under-served and equity-deserving populations

How will you decide which applications receive funding?

- 🗨 Submissions will be reviewed by an independent and representative Committee, based on:
 - Relevance to the Innovation Lab focus areas, priorities, and target groups
 - Adherence to CASE's [9 Guiding Principles of Supported Employment](#)
 - Degree of innovation (e.g. Is it truly innovative for the sector, region, target group?)
 - Understanding of the problem being addressed and existing solutions (if any) available
 - Quality of planning and ability of the organization to undertake the proposed project
 - Impact/outcomes and potential for replication
 - Quality of collaborations and/or partnerships

When will the decision be made?

- 🗨 We aim to conclude the selection process and begin signing funding agreements by the end of May 2023.

What will make our proposals stand out?

- 🗨 Review the [Innovation Lab RFP details](#)
- 🗨 Pay attention to the Eligibility and Selection Criteria
- 🗨 Review CASE's [9 Guiding Principles of Supported Employment](#) and consider taking the [Supported Employment Essentials](#) training
- 🗨 Review what existing [Innovation Lab partners](#) are doing
- 🗨 Sign up for the CASE 'Nature of Innovation' course, in particular module 3 where you can draft a proposal

and have it reviewed prior to applying. Contact learn@supportedemployment.ca.

- 🗨 Start designing your project well in advance of April to ensure that proposals are clear and well researched/developed
- 🗨 Do an environmental scan to determine if there are others who are already working on similar projects/innovations. If so, we encourage all collaborations.
- 🗨 Ensure that all answers are clear, concise, and reviewed

Good Luck!
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