

TEXT for Email to Active Skilled Trades Sponsors

MEMORANDUM TO: Apprenticeship and Skilled Trades Employer and Group Sponsors

FROM: Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development – Apprenticeship

DATE: April 15, 2021

SUBJECT: New incentive to encourage apprentice hiring and completion of training

ATTACHMENT: Group Sponsorship Two-Page Background Information (English and French)

Information about new financial incentives

Ontario is focused on helping businesses during these challenging times. As announced in the 2020 Ontario Budget, the Province is supporting business participation in apprenticeship by investing \$20 million in 2020-21 for a new Group Sponsorship Grant. The program gives up to \$1 million annually to encourage and support small to medium-sized employers and group sponsors with apprentice on-boarding, hiring, training, and apprenticeship-related administration costs.

The Group Sponsorship Grant is designed to streamline administration and structure training to provide a broad range of on-the-job experiences for apprentices. Additionally, it will support a pipeline of talented tradespeople to participate in Ontario's economy.

- The program is designed to consider the needs of small to medium-sized employers that may lack the capacity to individually participate in apprenticeship but may be supported through a group sponsor arrangement.
- Interested employers and organizations, including new and existing group sponsors, may apply through the submission of a Business Case Application that demonstrates their ability to deliver key activities that align with program objectives. Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis.
- For more information about suitable group sponsor arrangements and the program's application process, please visit the [Employment Ontario Partners' Gateway](#).

How you can help

You can help encourage apprentice registrations and completions by promoting awareness of these programs within your network. The ministry also has other incentives to support businesses that employ apprentices. Please visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/hire-apprentice> for more details.

Please see the attached Apprenticeship Group Sponsorship Backgrounder PDF document (English and French) for further information regarding group sponsors.

If you have any questions that are not answered in the materials provided above, you may contact the ministry's Employment Ontario Contact Centre or a local ministry office.

Contact information can be found at: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/hire-apprentice#section-4>