

Appendix A

Collaborative Projects to Support the Adult Learner Journey

Overview

As part of the government's mandate to strengthen adult education, the Province is exploring ways to encourage collaboration that supports learner-centred program and service delivery. We believe that greater partnership across sectors that focus on the learner journey will help streamline referral processes, facilitate mobility, and ease transitions for learners.

To support this goal, enhancement funding is being made available to the Ministry of Education (EDU) Regional Partnerships for Adult Education (RPAEs) to be used for projects that build on their existing strategic plans to improve collaboration in the adult education system and foster more seamless and learner-centred program and service delivery for adults.

This opportunity is intended to enhance and support the environmental scans and strategic plans that the RPAEs have already developed, as well as the progress achieved to date, while remaining appropriate for the local context in each region.

The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD) has allocated 2017-18 funding of **up to \$100,000** per RPAE to supplement planned and/or support new projects led by RPAEs.

Project Criteria

Project proposals should meet the following criteria to be eligible for this funding opportunity:

- Completed 2016-17 deliverables for the RPAE have been met (e.g., completed and submitted a strategic plan and environmental scan, as per the 2016-17 transfer payment agreement). The proposed project(s) should be informed by evidence gathered through the regional strategic plan.
- Project(s) must involve collaboration among more than one program and/or service for adult learners.
 - For example, collaboration among Language Training, Adult Credit, Literacy and Basic Skills, etc. within or among RPAES.
- Project(s) could involve collaboration among school board delivered programs and services, and/or could include partnerships or collaboration with other adult education and training and service providers in the region in order to facilitate pathways and opportunities for adult learners.
 - For example, an Adult Credit provider (school board) in partnership with a community based or college Literacy and Basic Skills provider, with a settlement agency, or with a municipal Ontario Works provider.
- The project proposal must have the approval/endorsement of the regional partnership.
 - Projects or pilots that might only be implemented by select school boards or communities will be considered as long as the regional partnership is aware and supportive of the submission.
- The proposed project(s) should include cross-sector engagement/collaboration and/or cross-program/service collaboration related to one or more of the three following priority areas:
 1. Coordinated intake, assessment and referral of learners to the most suitable service among adult education programs and services;

2. Guidance, career counselling and pathway planning for adults; and/or,
3. Flexible delivery of programs and/or services for adults;

Funding can be used for:

- Enhancing or expanding projects proposed under the RPAE Strategic Plan submitted in November 2017 that meet the parameters outlined in this document.
- Newly proposed projects related to the parameters outlined in this document and based on evidence found in the RPAE's environmental scan.
- Outreach activities to engage in cross-sectoral partnership development (e.g., with adult education providers or other relevant community partners).
- Professional development and training costs to ensure staff have the knowledge and skills to deliver coordinated services for adult learners.
- Cross-sector resource development to support staff and adult learners.
- Research and analysis costs (e.g., scoping/mapping exercises).
- Additional partnership administrative costs including:
 - Staff release time and/or salary/benefits for additional staff needed to coordinate expanded partnership work.
 - Travel, accommodation and meeting costs incurred to hold and attend meetings and/or conduct outreach to non-school board partners in relation to the three priority areas.

Next Steps:

- RPAE leads are encouraged to apply for this funding by **February 8, 2018**, providing an overview of proposed projects using the following online form in English:
 - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2Sh_NvR5Rt7Vq07cl6mr_V-jl7-0n03Y7VVZYmEtiFHZtXw/viewform?usp=sf_link
 - Or in French:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFnI3bMx74sq2vSwXeZHyguaSx4SYIdIHk1ZpPx3SUymqZgw/viewform?usp=sf_link
- Multiple projects are acceptable and encouraged. Each RPAE is asked to submit a separate form for each project.
- Total funding available (for all projects) is up to \$100,000 per partnership.
 - Funding will be provided by March 31, 2018 through an amendment of the Transfer Payment Agreement (TPAS) between the RPAE and EDU.
 - The first deliverable of the amended TPA will be a detailed workplan and budget on how this funding will be used.
 - Expenditure of funds should be complete by **August 31, 2018**.

Contact:

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you would like to discuss your ideas further with a member of the team.

- Lisa Bifano at Lisa.Bifano@ontario.ca
- Pauline McNaughton at Pauline.McNaughton@ontario.ca

For French language inquiries, please contact Geneviève Brouyaux at Genevieve.Brouyaux@ontario.ca.