

Employment and Training Division

Division de l'emploi et de la formation

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MEMORANDUM TO: Employment Ontario Partners

DATE: December 17, 2019

SUBJECT: Open call for proposals for Skills Catalyst Fund

Dear Employment Ontario partners,

We are pleased to announce the launch of the second round of the Skills Catalyst Fund. Starting today, you can find information about the call for proposals and apply through [Transfer Payment Ontario](#).

About the Skills Catalyst Fund

The Skills Catalyst Fund supports projects that explore innovative approaches to training and workforce development. These projects will encourage partnerships between industry, education and training providers that drive innovation and give employers an opportunity to train the talent they need to support their workforce.

The first round of the Skills Catalyst Fund launched in December 2017 and supported 20 successful projects that helped more than 4,000 individuals.

The second round of [the Skills Catalyst Fund is a \\$20 million initiative](#) that will provide up to \$500,000 per project, with the ministry contributing up to 80% of total project costs.

Call for Proposals

The ministry is interested in proposals that respond to at least one of the following four workforce development themes:

- Partnership Development
- Developing Skills and Competencies
- Supporting Job Pathways
- Investing in Employer-Led Training

Special consideration will be given to proposals that:

- Lead to better employment and employability outcomes
- Support the participation of traditionally underrepresented groups such as women, youth, Indigenous people, persons with disabilities, newcomers and veterans
- Incent place-based solutions to unique local or regional labour market issues

Projects must involve a consortium of partnering organizations that include a minimum of two parties. The consortium must include at least one representative from two of the following three organization types: (1) an employer, (2) an education or training provider and (3) a business support or development organization.

More details on these themes, focus areas, and consortium requirements are provided in the Fund's application materials on the [Transfer Payment Ontario platform](#).

How to apply and get more information

Applicants are invited to submit a proposal through Transfer Payment Ontario, where you will find information about available funding, eligibility, and the process for submitting a proposal.

The deadline for submitting a proposal is **11:59 a.m. on January 27, 2020**. Successful projects will be announced in early 2020.

If you have further questions after reviewing program materials online, please contact skillscatalystfund@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to supporting job seekers and employers through your programs and services.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by)
David Carter-Whitney
Assistant Deputy Minister
Employment and Training Division

(Original signed by)
Erin McGinn
Assistant Deputy Minister
Workforce Policy and Innovation Division