



Business Development Program

Non-commercial Projects

Who is eligible?

Non-commercial/not-for-profit organizations such as business and economic development associations, provincial crown corporations, universities, educational institutions, municipalities and their agencies, business or technology institutes are eligible.

What projects qualify for funding?

The proposed project must provide a service to business in areas such as entrepreneurship development, marketing, training or technology transfer.

Eligible activities may include:

- specialized services such as planning, business information, business counselling and advice, testing services, research and development services, technical or innovation services and business networking;
- market and trade development;
- capital costs associated with establishing, expanding or modernizing a facility for providing specialized services in support of business;
- the provision of site-specific infrastructure to support small and medium-sized businesses can be eligible but does not include basic municipal infrastructure.

Preference will be given to those projects that respond to issues and opportunities identified by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA).

Priority will also be given to those projects that have a widespread benefit for the industry or the region.

Contributions to non-commercial projects are considered to be seed funding only, and applicants must demonstrate that their projects are self-sustaining over the long term.

Amount of assistance available

Assistance is non-repayable and is limited to the proportion of the eligible costs that, in the opinion of ACOA, is required by the applicant in order to go ahead with the project.

Environmental assessment

As part of its project assessment process, ACOA requires that all projects conform with the environmental guidelines set out in the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.

How to get started

Contact the ACOA office nearest you.

New Brunswick: 1-800-561-4030

Prince Edward Island: 1-800-871-2596

Newfoundland and Labrador: 1-800-668-1010

Nova Scotia: 1-800-565-1228

Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation: 1-800-705-3926

ACOA Web site: www.acoa.gc.ca

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