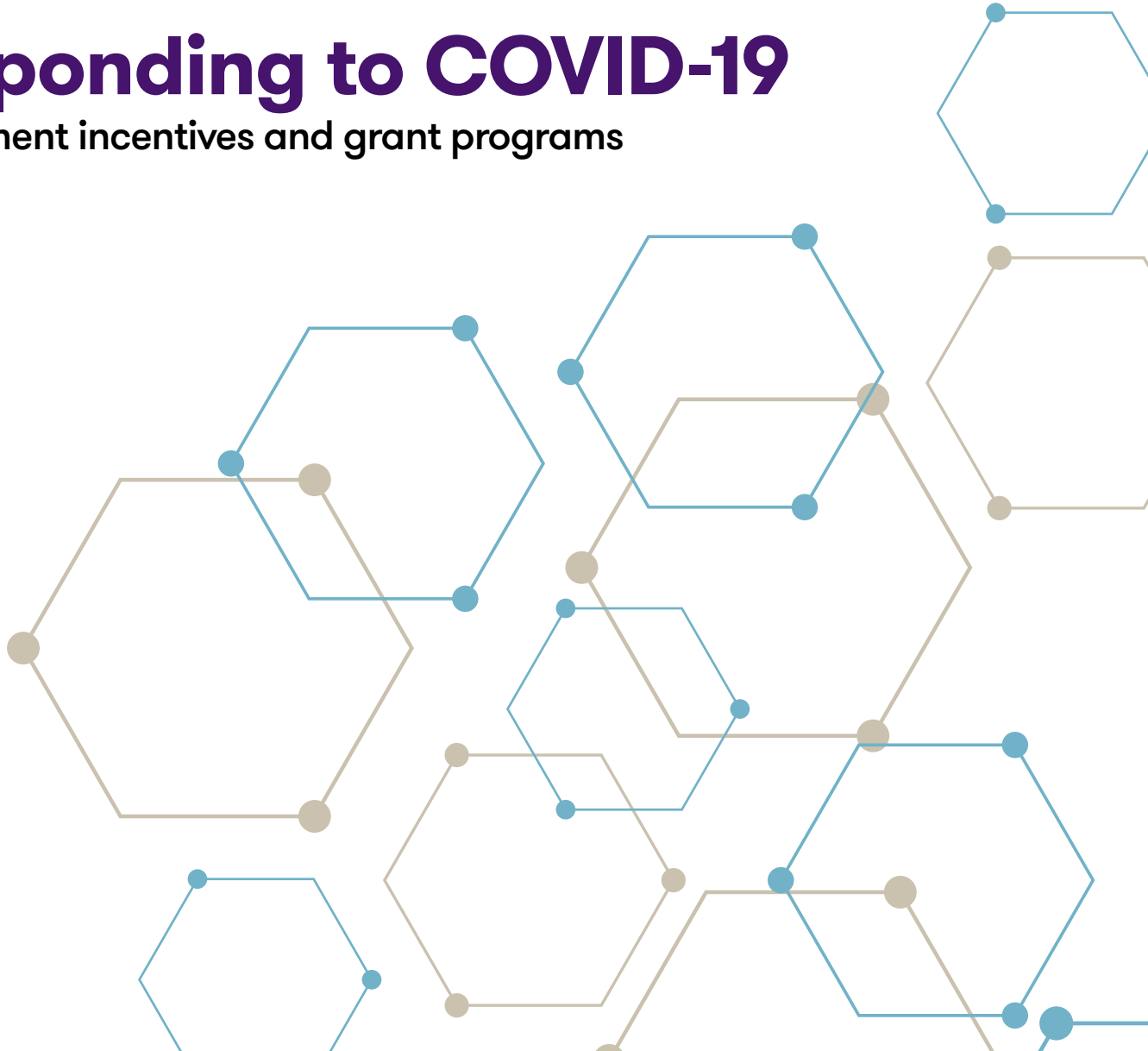


Responding to COVID-19

Government incentives and grant programs





The COVID-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on Canadian businesses and the global economy as a whole. In response, the federal government has updated existing programs or launched new programs to assist employers and their employees during this time. From research and development grants to direct funding for expansion, we have outlined some options available and highlighted the requirements for approval.

Programs

[COVID-19 Solutions Program](#)

[NGen Supercluster](#)

[The COVID-19 Challenges Procurement Program](#)

[Pandemic Response Challenge Program](#)

[Sustainable Development Technology Canada \(SDTC\)](#)

[Strategic Innovation Fund \(SIF\)](#)

[Industrial Research Assistance Program \(IRAP\)](#)

[Youth Employment and Youth Employment Green Program](#)

[CanExport Program](#)

[Ontario Development Funds](#)

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

COVID-19 Solutions Program

Purpose

To invest up to \$60M in digital technology solutions to improve the health and safety of Canadians and support Canada's ability to address critical issues caused by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Funding



towards salary, contractors, & wages (employee benefits, user fees, capex, etc)

Who should apply?

- Members or Associates of the Supercluster
- Project proposals that are led by a Supercluster Member or Associate who will become a member upon project selection
- Project collaborations are strongly encouraged, however single company initiatives will be considered in exceptional circumstances. *The Supercluster will help organizations identify potential partners.*

Areas of focus



Health system



Community health



Safe living



Diagnostic and therapeutics



Emergency response



Other contributions

[Get more program details](#)

NEXT GENERATION MANUFACTURING CANADA

NGen Supercluster

Purpose

To build a Canadian supply of essential equipment, products and therapeutics that respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Funding

Priority will be given to projects that will have an immediate impact (from April-June 30 2020).

Medium term projects (those with an impact after June 30) may also qualify for reduced funding.

Who should apply?

- Members of the Advanced Manufacturing Supercluster
- Non members may apply to be considered a partner or co-investor
- All applicants must be incorporated in Canada

[Get more program details](#)



Immediate term
eligible project costs
(100% up to \$5M)



Medium term
eligible project costs
(50% up to \$5M)

The COVID-19 Challenges Procurement Program

Purpose

To help small and medium-sized businesses refine and sell their near-to-market product or solution to address needs related to COVID-19.

Funding

- The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and Health Canada (HC) will establish challenges related to the needs of COVID-19 health providers
- Phase 1 funding will be awarded to successful small and medium-sized businesses to develop a proof of concept for their solution
- Phase 2 funding will be awarded to the firms with the best concepts so they can develop a working prototype. Challenges will be posted [here](#)

Who should apply?

Small and medium-sized businesses with fewer than 500 employees with solutions to address COVID-19

Focus areas



Personal protective equipment



Sanitization



Diagnostic and testing therapeutics



Disease tracking technology

[Get more program details](#)

THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (NRC) OF CANADA

Pandemic Response Challenge Program

Purpose

To build teams to address COVID-19 challenges that require research and development. This will accelerate the development of diagnostics and medical countermeasures for a rapid front line response to protect and treat Canadians.

Funding



Total available funding

- The National Research Council will post specific challenges for teams to solve
- Funding to cover the costs of research for academic institutions, small and medium-sized businesses, and other eligible recipients

Who should apply?

Researchers at:

- Canadian and international universities and colleges
- Government departments
- Highly innovative firms with relevant expertise

Focus areas



Rapid detection and diagnosis



Therapeutics and vaccine development



Digital health

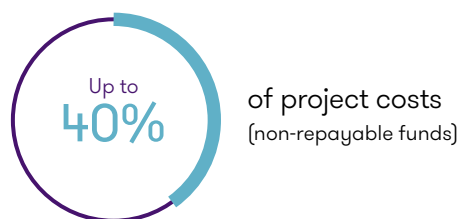
[Get more program details](#)

Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC)

Purpose

To assist Canadian small and medium-sized businesses advancing innovative pre-commercial technologies that have the potential to have environmental and economic benefits for climate change, clean air, clean water and clean soil.

Funding



- On average 33% (up to 40%) of eligible costs
- The average contribution is \$3M disbursed over a period of up to five years
- 25% of the eligible costs must be funded through private sector contributions (including in-kind)

Who should apply?

Businesses developing new and novel technology with significant and quantifiable environmental benefit to Canada

- Who've formed a consortium that includes at least one other partner
- Incurring at least 50% of eligible project costs in Canada

Eligible costs



Salary



Materials



Professional services



License fees & permits

[Get more program details](#)

Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF)

Purpose

To assist firms in commercializing new products, processes and services, as well as to grow and expand in Canada.

Funding



of project costs
(repayable and non-repayable costs)

Who should apply?

- For-profit businesses (small, medium or large)
- Larger projects with over \$10M in requested contribution
- The combined level of assistance from all governments (federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal), shall not normally exceed 75% of eligible costs.

Eligible costs



Direct labour and sub-contractual labour (including consultants)



Overhead (program limits apply)



Materials and equipment



Other direct costs

[Get more program details](#)

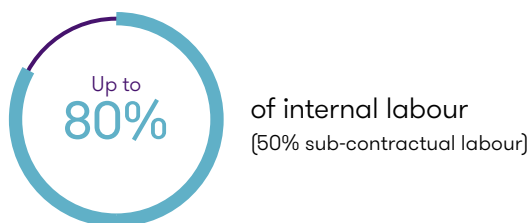
THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (NRC) OF CANADA

Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP)

Purpose

To help small and medium-sized businesses commercialize new technologically-driven products, processes or services.

Funding



Who should apply?

- For-profit businesses with 500 or fewer employees
- Must operate in Canada
- \$1M or more in annual revenue

Areas of focus



Advanced manufacturing



Information and communication technology



Life sciences



Clean technology



Aerospace



Automotive

Get more program details

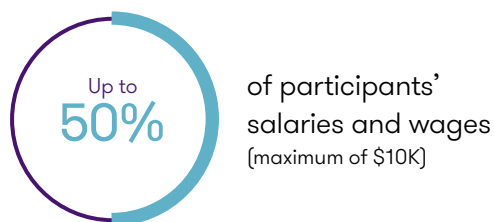
THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (NRC) OF CANADA

Youth Employment and Youth Employment Green Program

Purpose

To help small and medium-sized businesses hire young talent and facilitate the transition of highly skilled young people to a rapidly changing labour market.

Funding



Who should apply?

- Placements (full-time) must be 6-12 months in duration
- Candidates must be recent post-secondary graduates between the ages of 15 and 30
- Candidates must participate in a STEM position

Areas of focus



Advanced manufacturing



Information and communication technology



Life sciences



Clean technology



Aerospace



Automotive

Get more program details

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

CanExport Program

Purpose

To provide direct financial assistance to Canadian small and medium-sized businesses expanding into new¹ international markets.

Funding



¹ A market where the company reported less than \$100,000 in sales during the last tax year or one that contributes less than 10% of total sales.

Who should apply?

For-profit companies:

- With CRA business numbers
- That are incorporated legal entities or limited liability partnerships
- Reported at least \$100,000 and no more than \$100M in prior fiscal's annual revenue

Eligible costs



Market research



Adaptation and translation of marketing tools



Intellectual property protection, certification, and adaptation of contracts



Expert advice on business, legal or tax matters

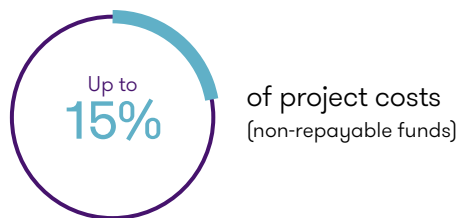
[Get more program details](#)

Ontario Development Funds

Purpose

To support businesses with repayable and non-repayable funding that encourages economic development in Southwestern and Eastern Ontario.

Funding



Who should apply?

Businesses that:

- Employ over 10 full-time equivalents
- Are incorporated with 3 years of operations experience and financial statements
- Invest at least \$500,000 over 4 years
- Create 5-10 net new jobs over 4 years

Eligible costs

-  Facility modifications/retrofits
-  Equipment/machinery upgrades
-  Salaries/wages
-  Permits, fees, training

[Get more program details \(Southwestern\)](#)

[Get more program details \(Eastern\)](#)

You can help Canada fight COVID-19

We understand that during times of uncertainty it is difficult to know where to start. At Grant Thornton our specialists are familiar with federal incentive programs and can guide you through the application process to help get you the funding you need.

Contact [Martha Oner](#), our National R&D and Government Incentives Leader if you have questions about these programs.

Visit our [COVID-19 Hub](#) for timely information and resources and connect with your [Grant Thornton advisor](#) to learn more.



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