SUMMER 2027

Student Hiring Guide

Wage subsidies and funding sources for Canadian employers



This guide highlights federal and British Columbia programs that may help employers hire students for summer 2027, including general summer jobs, co-op work terms, internships and other work-integrated learning (WIL) opportunities.

At a glance

PROGRAM	POTENTIAL SUPPORT	BEST FIT
Canada Summer Jobs	Up to 50% or 100% of provincial minimum wage, depending on employer type	General summer jobs for youth aged 15–30
Student Work Placement Program	Up to $5,000 per placement; up to $7,000 for eligible groups	Post-secondary co-op and WIL placements
WorkBC Wage Subsidy	Partial wage support; placements may be supported for up to 24 weeks	Employers hiring eligible WorkBC participants
BC Employer Training Grant	Up to 80% of eligible training costs, to program limits	Training costs rather than wages

Important: Funding amounts, eligibility rules, application windows and available budgets can change. The figures in this guide are program summaries, not a guarantee of funding. Employers should confirm details with the program administrator before making a hiring commitment.

Federal programs available across Canada

1. Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) 2027 GENERAL SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

- Eligible employers: not-for-profit organizations, public-sector employers, and private-sector employers with 50 or fewer full-time employees.
- Eligible participants: youth aged 15–30.
- Potential funding: not-for-profit employers may receive up to 100% of the applicable provincial minimum wage plus mandatory employment-related costs; public- and private-sector employers may receive up to 50% of the applicable provincial minimum wage.
- Typical placement period for 2027: April 19 to August 28, 2027; approved jobs are generally 6–16 weeks and 30–40 hours per week.
- Potential fit: municipalities, small businesses, tourism operators, community organizations, non-profits and First Nations organizations.
- TIME-SENSITIVE: CANADA SUMMER JOBS 2027 – the deadline to apply for this is **December 3, 2026**

Official employer guide: Canada Summer Jobs - Canada.ca

2. Student Work Placement Program (SWPP) POST-SECONDARY CO-OP / WIL

- Supports paid work-integrated learning placements for post-secondary students.
- Potential funding: up to 50% of wages, to a maximum of $5,000 per placement; up to 70%, to a maximum of $7,000, for eligible first-year students and students from underrepresented groups.
- Placement types may include co-op placements, internships and other eligible WIL experiences. Program and delivery-partner rules determine which placement types qualify.
- Employers apply through participating delivery partners rather than through one central application. Eligibility, industry focus, intake dates and available funds vary.
- Potential fit: employers offering structured, paid work related to a student's post-secondary studies.

SWPP delivery partners and sector-specific programs

The organizations below have administered or promoted student work-placement funding in particular sectors. Check each provider's current Summer 2027 intake, eligible occupations, placement rules and remaining funding before referring an employer.

DELIVERY PARTNER	SECTOR / FOCUS	WEBSITE	Application Status
Magnet – Student Work Placement	Broad range of industries	https://www.swpprogram.ca/	OPEN NOW
ECO Canada	Environment, sustainability and natural resources	https://eco.ca/swpp/	OPEN NOW
TECHNATION – Career Ready	Technology and digital roles	https://technationcanada.ca/en/future-workforce-development/career-ready-program/	Opens January
ICTC – WIL Digital	Digital economy and technology	https://etalentcanada.ca/for-businesses/programs/work-integrated-learning-wil-digital	Undetermined
Tourism HR Canada – Propel	Tourism and hospitality	https://tourismhr.ca/program-and-service/propel-student-work-placement-program/	Attend Webinar to Apply
Venture for Canada	Startups and small businesses	https://ventureforcanada.ca/employers	Ongoing
Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council	Agriculture and agri-business	https://cahrc-ccrha.ca/programs/agri-talent?utm	Ongoing
Mining Industry Human Resources Council	Mining and related industries	https://mihr.ca/career-development/gearing-up	OPEN NOW
Electricity Human Resources Canada	Electricity and energy	https://ehrc.ca/programs/empowering-futures	OPEN NOW
Food Processing Skills Canada	Food and beverage manufacturing	https://fpsc-ctac.com/programs/#SWP	Ongoing
Excellence in Manufacturing Consortium	Manufacturing	https://offers.emccanada.org/wilworks	On Hold

Government of Canada – student wage subsidies:
https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/student-work-placements-wage-subsidies.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com

3. Additional programs to investigate

Mitacs

- Supports eligible research internships and collaborations between post-secondary institutions and industry or community partners.
- More appropriate for research, innovation and specialized student projects than for a conventional summer job.

Mitacs: https://www.mitacs.ca/

Practical tips for employers

- Start early. Some programs require an application and approval before the student is hired or starts work.
- Define the student role. Identify the project, duties, learning outcomes, supervision and expected work term before approaching a funding provider.
- Check the student's status. Age, post-secondary enrolment, year of study, field of study and eligibility-group criteria can affect funding.
- Check the employer's eligibility. Business size, sector, location, organization type and whether the position is new may matter.
- Ask about stacking. Do not assume two subsidies can be combined for the same wages; confirm each program's stacking rules.
- Keep records. Employers may need payroll records, timesheets, proof of enrolment, job descriptions and placement evaluations.
- **For general summer jobs:** Start with Canada Summer Jobs, especially for small businesses, non-profits and public-sector employers.
- **For co-op and WIL placements:** Start with SWPP delivery partners and check Columbia Basin Trust School Works for eligible Basin employers.
- **For employers with a specific industry focus:** Apply to a relevant SWPP delivery partner, such as ECO Canada, Tourism HR Canada, TECHNATION or BioTalent Canada.
- **A student placement doesn't always need to be a traditional summer job.** Employers can identify a defined project—such as bookkeeping, inventory, marketing, website updates, community research, tourism development or administrative support—and explore whether it can be structured as an eligible co-op or WIL placement.

Get ready to apply for funding

- Is the application window open and what is the deadline to apply?
- Is the employer eligible based on location, sector, organization type and size?
- Is the student eligible based on age, enrolment, program, year of study or other criteria?
- What is the maximum subsidy, and what wages or costs are eligible?
- Must the position be new, full-time, paid, related to the student's studies or a minimum length?
- Can the funding your applying for be combined with another subsidy?
- What documents and reporting are required?

Disclaimer: This employer resource is intended as a starting point for program research. Program descriptions and funding figures are summaries and may reflect previously published program parameters. Funding is subject to approval, annual budgets and program changes. Always rely on the official website for current Summer 2027 requirements.

Need Support or want to hire a student? Connect with our College Career Connections Team today, wil@cotr.bc.ca