

2026 Summer Employment Opportunities (SEO) Program

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, Ministry of Sport

The Summer Employment Opportunities (SEO) Program provides funding for meaningful summer employment opportunities for students. The positions must focus on activities that support the key sectors of tourism, culture, sport and recreation, and provide students with training, work experience and skills transferable to the general workforce and to future careers.

Eligibility Requirements:

- **Applicants:** Not-for-profit organizations who have been incorporated for at least one year, municipalities, Indigenous organizations, and First Nations communities. Eligible organizations must be legally incorporated or be band councils established under the Indian Act, Canada.
- **Students:** Must be enrolled in secondary or post-secondary institutions, aged 15 upon commencement of employment, and be a resident of Ontario at the time of employment.

Program Objectives:

- To provide quality, supervised work experience for students in summer positions that develop skills that are career-related and transferable to the general labour market.
- To make positions available in communities throughout the province, particularly in areas of high unemployment (i.e., Northern Ontario).
- To enable greater access to student summer employment through an accessible and transparent recruitment process.
- To provide transfer payments to eligible organizations within the key sectors to support their capacity to deliver summer service and specific projects that align with the Ministry priorities.

Insurance Requirements:

- Organizations must have commercial general liability insurance coverage of \$2,000,000 per occurrence on property damage, bodily injury, and personal injury.
- Valid Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) coverage or equivalent coverage under their commercial general liability insurance is required.

Funding Criteria:

- Students hired under the SEO Program must be paid at least the applicable Ontario general minimum wage.
- Maximum funding per position: \$3,828.
- Minimum employment contract: 217.5 hours or 30 days.

How to Apply for Funding:

- The application can be found on [Transfer Payment Ontario](#) and accessed by logging into your [My Ontario Account](#).
- Read the application guidelines at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/available-funding-opportunities-ontario-government>.

Contact Information:

- Contact your [Regional Development Advisor](#) for program questions or to schedule a consultation.
- **Technical Support** with enrolment and accessing an application please contact [Transfer Payment Ontario \(TPON\) Client Care](#) Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST).
 - Toronto: (416) 325-6691 / Toll Free: 1-855-216-3090
 - TTY/Teletypewriter (for the hearing impaired): 416-325-3408 / Toll free: 1-800-268-7095
 - Email: TPONCC@ontario.ca

Application Deadline:

Applications must be submitted online through Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) by:

Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST).