



## Cooperative Education Program (COOP) 2018-2019 - Call for Proposals

### Background

The BC First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNEC) and First Nations Schools Association (FNSA) are pleased to be managing the Department of Indigenous Services (DISC) Cooperative Education Program for First Nations schools.

### Objectives

- to promote the benefits of education as key to labour market participation
- to support the development and enhancement of essential employability skills
- to introduce youth to a variety of career options
- to support the provision of school-based employment opportunities
- to help First Nation youth overcome barriers to employment

### Expected Outcomes/Results

- enhanced employability skills for participants
- increased awareness of the benefits of education
- enhanced ability to make employment-related decisions
- improved attitudes toward the transition from school to work
- increased ability of youth to participate in the labour market

### Key Activities

- experiences that support youth in acquiring skills needed for work placements
- initiatives to provide career development information, including awareness and support activities like career fairs and leadership projects
- career planning and counselling activities

### Eligible Participants

According to the federal guidelines for Cooperative Education Programs, eligible participants include students in grades 7 to 12 who are enrolled in and attending a First Nations school who are ordinarily resident on reserve.

**PROPOSALS ARE DUE: Monday, June 25, 2018 by 4:30pm**  
**FINAL REPORTS ARE DUE: Friday, March 15, 2019 by 4:30pm**  
**SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO: [reception@fnesc.ca](mailto:reception@fnesc.ca) or Fax: 604-925-6097**

**For the 2018/2019 Cooperative Education Program, FNESC and the FNSA have identified two proposal categories. Applicants are welcome to apply for one or both of these categories, as shown on the attached proposal template. FNESC and the FNSA will strive to approve as many applications as possible, depending on the number of requests received.**

### **1. Participation in an Applied Design Skills Training Professional Learning Community**

A relatively new component of the BC Ministry of Education curriculum is called the Applied Design, Skills and Technologies (ADST) Curriculum. According to the Ministry website, the Applied Skills learning area has been re-envisioned as a K–12 program, and ADST curriculum is an experiential, hands-on program of learning through design and creation that includes skills and concepts from traditional and First Peoples practice; from the existing disciplines of Business Education, Home Economics, Information Technology, and Technology Education; and from new and emerging fields. It envisions a K–12 continuum fostering the development of foundational understandings in the early grade levels, complemented by continued opportunities for students at higher grade levels to develop skills through activities that have a practical and real-life focus.

In order to support First Nations schools in implementing the new ADST curriculum with grade 7 to 12 students, Cooperative Education funding can be used to pay travel costs for secondary teachers of grades 7 to 12 to participate in a DSTC Professional Learning Communities (PLC) initiative. This initiative will involve attendance at two PLC gatherings in Vancouver, likely to be scheduled in October 2018 and February 2019. Those gatherings will be complemented by regular conference calls of participants to facilitate sharing and networking.

FNESC and the FNSA will sponsor the facilities for the two PLC gatherings and the conference calls; schools may request funding through this Call for Proposals to cover the travel and accommodation costs for up to two teachers to attend the PLC gatherings; schools are expected to cover any other costs associated with their teachers' participation, including Teacher on Call costs associated with attendance at the two gatherings and conference call participation.

### **2. Implementing a Comprehensive Cooperative Education Program**

Schools may also request funding to implement a comprehensive Cooperative Education Program.

Possible activities to include in Cooperative Education Programs include, among others:

- job shadowing opportunities for participating students
- career promotion workshops, visits, or other activities
- role model / guest speaker presentations to promote careers and education planning
- attendance of students / chaperone / coordinator at an existing career and education event
- student training to promote job access, such as First Aid, workplace safety, etc.
- workshops/activities related to resume writing, job interviewing, professional skills, etc.

**Eligible Expenditures:**

- salaries and employee benefits for teachers, co-op/internship coordinators, career counsellors and other staff directly related to program delivery not already covered by existing programs, such as the INAC elementary/secondary education or band support/tribal council funding
- other necessary costs directly related to a work placement including, but not limited to, criminal record check, uniforms required by the workplace for the students, personal safety gear such as work boots, safety hats) up to a maximum of \$300 per participant
- actual costs for special equipment and facilities to accommodate the needs of a disabled individual, up to a maximum of \$3,000 per participant
- staff training on co-operative education and internships
- other incidental co-op and internship placement costs, including insurance for students during their co-op or internship placement
- travel for co-op coordinators/teachers to meet employers
- participant costs such as living expenses, travel costs and room and board
- All 2018-19 COOP funding must be expended and all activities completed by March 31, 2019.

***Note: Travel expenses for all Cooperative Education Program activity areas outlined above are to be claimed at actual cost, but cannot exceed Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat's guidelines. Eligible rates are available from FNESC/FNSA.***

Ineligible expenditures include:

- office infrastructure or equipment purchases such as computers and software
- capital costs for the construction of a building (other than small repairs or renovations to support the participation of persons with disabilities) or the purchase of land or buildings
- salaries or wages for students
- dependent care / daycare

***Please note:*** for the 2018/2019 school year, FNESC and the FNSEA will be implementing a pilot initiative to assist First Nations and First Nations schools in connecting youth who are interested in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) with technicians who are supporting the implementation of FNESC/FNSA's ICT supports. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please email [kyleem@fnesc.ca](mailto:kyleem@fnesc.ca).