Canada-Manitoba Job Grant Frequently Asked Questions

Canada-Manitoba Job Grant Explained

1. What is the Canada-Manitoba Job Grant?

The Canada-Manitoba Job Grant is a cost-shared funding program that provides funding to companies to help cover training costs of new and existing employees to meet business needs, support the development of a highly skilled workforce, boost economic growth, and increase employment opportunities across Manitoba. Training must be delivered by an external third-party service provider.

2. Why is it called the Canada-Manitoba Job Grant?

Through Labour Market Transfer Agreements, the federal government transfers funds to all of the provinces and territories to help them deliver programs to develop their labour force. The Job Grant is a Manitoba program that is funded under one of these Transfer Agreements.

3. Why do the federal and provincial governments provide this funding?

- Companies depend on their employees to achieve business and organizational goals.
- A skilled labour force is one of the keys to economic development.
- It plays important roles in attracting offshore companies, supporting expansion of Manitoba businesses, and supporting new business creation.
- Canada and Manitoba believe that developing the labour force is a shared responsibility among many stakeholders including companies, unions, industry associations, postsecondary institutions, employees themselves, and others.

Company and Training Participant Eligibility

1. Who is eligible to apply for a Job Grant?

- Private employers and sole proprietors
- Non-profit organizations
- Industry associations, sector councils, groups of companies
- Union halls
- First Nations
- Municipal governments
- Applications must be submitted by the business identified in the application. Applications submitted by another organization will be deemed ineligible.

2. Who is not eligible to apply for a grant?

- · Prior recipients of three Job Grants over the past five years
- Current recipient of funding from Manitoba under another Business and Industry Training Supports
 program such as the Industry Expansion Program or the Workforce Development Program
- Companies who don't meet all of the eligibility criteria listed on the grant application
- K-12 schools and post-secondary institutions funded by provincial/federal sources
- Federal, provincial and territorial governments
- Federal and provincial crown corporations and agencies

3. Who is an eligible training participant?

- Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada
- Full-time, part-time, and seasonal employees
- Unemployed individuals seeking training to get a new job; Note: companies must still pay for training.
- Employees who reside in another province, but are working in Manitoba
- Refugees, provincial nominees, and immigrants who are not obligated to leave and are permitted to stay and work in Canada

4. Who is not an eligible training participant?

- Temporary Foreign Workers
- Individuals on Student Visas
- Volunteers or those who do not receive a regular wage
- Individuals hired on contract; i.e., non-employees
- · Employees of a Manitoba company who reside and work in a different province or country

5. Does a company have to be in business for a minimum length of time before applying for the Job Grant?

- No, there is no minimum length of time required to be eligible.
- A company must have a Business Number issued by the Government of Canada and licensed to carry on business in Manitoba

6. Our company temporarily hires and pays interns to provide them with work experience. Can we include them as training participants in our Job Grant application?

Yes.

Funding Amount and Eligible Costs

1. What is the amount of funding my company can apply for?

- Small companies with 100 or fewer employees can apply for up to 75% of eligible training costs.
- Companies with 101 or more employees can apply for up to 50% of eligible training costs.
- Companies can apply for up to a maximum of \$10,000 per training participant and up to a maximum of \$100,000 of total funding per Job Grant.

2. What costs are eligible for funding?

- Tuition fees or fees charged by an external training provider
- Mandatory student fees (These will be assessed on a case-by-case basis)
- Textbooks, software, and other required materials (These will be assessed on a case-by-case basis)
- Examination fees
- Travel costs for individuals residing in northern and remote communities to attend training events in Manitoba delivered outside their communities or unavailable online

3. What training is eligible for funding?

- Training must be provided by a third-party trainer and can be delivered at the workplace, online, or in a classroom or training facility. Eligible training providers include:
 - post-secondary institutions
 - private vocational institutions
 - sector councils or industry associations
 - union halls

- equipment manufacturers and other private trainers that have the applicable curriculum, knowledge/qualifications, and equipment or materials required for training
- Diploma Programs will be assessed for approval on a case-by-case basis. Training within the program must occur within the fiscal year of the Canada-Manitoba Job Grant (April 1st to March 31st). If the program duration spans two fiscal years, the company may be asked for a program breakdown to identify the courses and costs per fiscal year.
- The following activities will be assessed on a case-by-case basis for eligibility:
 - Coaching/Mentorship: Coaching and/or mentorship activities related to business development (i.e. Strategic planning, succession planning, executive one-on-one coaching, etc.) are ineligible for funding. If Coaching/Mentorship of any kind is included in the application, the company will need to provide training outlines and/or curriculum and define the specific skills development and training activities that will be completed.
 - Conferences/Seminars: Only conferences and/or seminars where training activities will be completed will be considered for eligibility. If conferences and/or seminars are included in the application, the company will need to provide training outlines and/or curriculum and define the specific skills development and training activities that will be completed.
 - Degree Programs: Full university degree programs are not eligible under the Canada-Manitoba Job Grant; however, individual courses within the degree program may be considered if they are relevant to the individual's job. The company will be required to provide an individual course cost breakdown on the application training plan.

4. What costs are ineligible for funding?

- Expenses for internal training delivered by a company employee
- Wages of employees while in training
- Apprenticeable trade training. For a full list of apprenticeable trades please visit <u>Manitoba Trades</u>.
- Travel and accommodation costs for companies south of the 53rd parallel
- Training costs paid for by an employee that are not being reimbursed by the employer

5. Our company's employees pay for their own training, and we reimburse them. Can we include that training in our application?

In some cases the answer is yes, and in others, the answer is no. For example, if an employee is pursuing a college or university certificate/degree that is unrelated to the employer's skills requirements and business needs, training costs are ineligible. Contact Business and Industry Training Supports through email at CMJG@gov.mb.ca to discuss this further.

If the training meets eligibility criteria, employers will be required to submit proof of payment for the training as well as proof of reimbursement for the full training costs to the employee. Please see the <u>Job Grant</u> Payment to Companies section of this document for more detail on proof of payment requirements.

6. Can our company apply for a Job Grant for training that has already taken place?

Companies can apply for the Job Grant for training that has already occurred as long as the training took place in the same fiscal year in which the application is submitted. The fiscal year is April 1 to March 31. <u>Example</u>: A company trained its employees in February 2024 and April 2024 and applied for the Job Grant in the May 2024 intake. The April 2024 training is eligible for the Job Grant as it occurred in the same fiscal year as the Job Grant application; however, the February 2024 training is ineligible as it occurred in the prior fiscal year.

7. Can our company include training in our Job Grant application that was paid for prior to the start of the current fiscal year, but that is taking place in the current fiscal year?

Yes. The Job Grant application is for training that occurs in the current fiscal year. The fiscal year is April 1 to March 31.

8. Can our company include training in our Job Grant application that is paid for in this fiscal year, but that is not taking place until the next fiscal year?

No. The Job Grant application is for training that occurs in the current fiscal year. The fiscal year is April 1 to March 31.

9. Are travel costs to attend training eligible for funding?

- Funding support is available to Manitoba companies who are located north of the 53rd parallel and
 cannot send employees to training outside their community due to the high cost of travel. For a list of
 eligible communities, please email: CMJG@gov.mb.ca.
- Travel for training will only be eligible when the training is not available to be completed either within the community or online.
- The support provided is not intended to cover all travel costs, but offset those costs.
- The amount of travel and accommodation costs reimbursed will not exceed \$1,000 per training participant per agreement.
- Manitoba government rates are used to determine the eligible travel and accommodations amount.
- The amount that a company is reimbursed for travel and accommodations costs cannot exceed the percentage at which all other eligible costs are reimbursed. For example, the maximum amount that a small company (100 or fewer employees) would be reimbursed is 75% of the total travel and accommodations costs; the maximum amount that companies with more than 100 employees would be reimbursed is 50% of the total travel and accommodations costs.
- The maximum Job Grant amount, including travel and accommodations costs, will not exceed \$100,000.
- When submitting their Job Grant application, companies should indicate in their email that they wish to apply for travel costs and provide documentation that shows the training is either not available online and training participants must travel more than 100km to attend the training. A Consultant will contact them to determine travel expense eligibility and provide travel expense guidelines.
- Travel and accommodation costs will be negotiated and are not guaranteed.

10. Our company requires employees to travel from Brandon to Winnipeg for training and the travel will be approx. \$3,000 per employee. Is this eligible?

- No, travel expenses are limited to employees who reside north of the 53rd parallel, Brandon does not fall under this rule. For a list of eligible communities for travel related costs, please email: CMJG@gov.mb.ca.
- 11. Is funding available for training delivered by an internal company employee to other company employees? For example, training on proprietary processes and equipment?

Companies may be eligible for funding for internally delivered training under the Workforce Development Program. Information on the Workforce Development Program <u>can be found here</u>.

Subsidiaries, Franchises and Companies with Multiple Locations

1. Can a company with employees working at two or more locations in Manitoba include employees from all locations in one application?

Yes, as long as the locations are operating under the same registered business number. If the locations are operating under different business numbers, each location will need to submit their own application.

2. Can a company that has one or more subsidiaries apply for a Job Grant to train employees from several of its subsidiaries or do each of the subsidiaries have to apply for the Job Grant?

A parent company can apply for one Job Grant to train employees working in Manitoba in one or more of its subsidiaries.

3. ABC Company has 150 employees. XYZ Company, a subsidiary of ABC Company, has 65 employees. Can XYZ Company be classified as a small employer?

No, the subsidiary does not qualify as a small employer.

4. Can an employer who owns a franchise of a national chain apply for the Job Grant as a small employer?

Yes, if the franchise has 100 or fewer employees. A franchise owner is a separate company that pays a franchise fee to the national chain in order to operate the company. Many franchise owners face the same challenges as a non-franchise small employer, and unlike a subsidiary of a larger company, cannot draw on the fiscal resources of the national chain.

Companies with Employees Working and/or Living in other Provinces

1. If a Manitoba company employs workers who reside and work in Alberta, can it include their Alberta employees in their Canada-Manitoba Job Grant application?

No. If the employees reside and work in Alberta, the company should contact the Alberta government for information on training funding availability.

2. If a company employs individuals who work in Manitoba, but reside in another province, can it include these employees in their Canada-Manitoba Job Grant application?

Yes, as long as they are Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada. If the employee's permanent residence is in another country, they are ineligible participants and cannot be included in the application.

3. If a company is located in another province or country, but employs individuals who work in Manitoba, can it apply for funding to train its Manitoba employees?

Yes, if the company is licensed to operate in Manitoba and holds a valid Manitoba business number, the company can apply for Canada-Manitoba Job Grant funding. Training participants must be employees of the company and not contract workers.

Job Grant Payment to Companies

1. How and when does our company get actual payment of the Job Grant?

- Payments are made once all training has been completed and reporting requirements are met. Advance
 payments are not available.
- Once training is completed, companies are required to report on their actual training costs and completion of training. Companies must submit the following in order for payment consideration:
 - Training Plan Report: This report is provided to the company upon approval of their application and the signing of a Canada-Manitoba Job Grant Agreement.
 - Training Evaluation: Included with the Training Plan Report.
 - Proof of payment of eligible training costs.

2. What are the Proof of Payment Requirements?

• For each course included on the training plan, one PDF must be submitted that includes all proof of payment requirements related to the payment method for that course from the table below.

Payment Method	Proof of Payment Requirements
1. Cheque	- Copy of the invoice or receipt from the training provider AND
	 Copy of the processed cheque (both front and back). You can obtain a copy of the endorsed cheque from your financial institution or online bank once payment has been processed.
	- If employee paid for training, proof of reimbursement (for the full training costs) from the employer to the employee must also be included.
2. Credit Card	- Copy of the invoice or receipt from the training provider AND
	- Copy of the credit card statement(s) showing that the invoice has been paid in full.
	- If employee paid for training, proof of reimbursement (for the full training costs) from the employer to the employee must also be included.
3. Electronic Funds Transfer	- Copy of the invoice or receipt from the training provider AND
	- Copy of the electronic payment confirmation(s) showing that the invoice has been paid in full. (e.g. PayPal statement; statement from financial institution, etc.)
	- If employee paid for training, proof of reimbursement (for the full training costs) from the employer to the employee must also be included.

3. An employee who participated in training funded by the Job Grant left the company prior to the employer submitting its expenses for reimbursement. Can the employer include the expenses for the employee who left?

- As long as the training was eligible and completed, the expenses are eligible and can be included. However, if the employee left before the training was completed, the training is ineligible.
- Additionally, if the employee paid for the training themselves and was not reimbursed for the costs, the training is ineligible.



