

# START Program Fact Sheet

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The Apprenticeship START program encourages employers to register and employ apprentices and support them as they complete their apprenticeship program.

## Who can apply?

Apprenticeship START is available to eligible employers who:

- register an apprentice to their company anywhere in Nova Scotia where the population is less than 20,000.

Employers operating in urban areas where populations exceed 20,000 (Halifax Regional Municipality, the town of Truro, and the town of Sydney) are not eligible unless they are registering an equity-deserving apprentice who self-identifies, at the time of registration, as belonging to one or more of the following equity groups:

- Newcomers,
- African Nova Scotians,
- Indigenous Peoples,
- Visible minorities,
- Persons with physical disabilities,
- Persons with learning disabilities,
- Women in trades where they are under-represented,
- Gender-diverse individuals who identify as a member of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

Note: Employers can receive hiring and progression incentives for only 15 apprentices or less at any given time.

## How much is the incentive?

Eligible employers who hire an apprentice and retain them throughout their apprenticeship journey could receive up to \$25,000; however, an employer who hires and retains an equity-deserving apprentice could receive up to \$30,000 as the hiring and completion incentives are doubled to \$5,000 (see START funding chart pg.2).

## How do I apply?

Complete an Apprenticeship Agreement with the Nova Scotia apprenticeship Agency. An Industry Training Consultant will review your application and determine eligibility. A list of the training consultants can be found at: <https://www.nsapprenticeship.ca/contact#itcs>

## START Program Funding Chart

