

We are Here to Help

How do you apply?

Contact your regional ECE Service Centre for more information.

Contact Us

Regional ECE Service Centres:

Fort Simpson.....(867) 695-7338

Dehcho Regional Education Centre

Fort Smith.....(867) 872-7425

Sweetgrass Building

Hay River.....(867) 874-5050

Courthouse Building

Inuvik.....(867) 777-7365

GNWT Multi-use Building

Norman Wells.....(867) 587-7157

Edward G. Hodgson Building

Yellowknife.....(867) 766-5100

Nova Plaza

www.ece.gov.nt.ca

If you would like this information
in another official language, call us.

Self-Employment Option

Helping you start a business

The Self-Employment Option provides the help of a business expert and financial assistance to **Employment Insurance participants** who would like to start a business.



Am I Eligible?

To be eligible, you must:

- Not have participated in a self-employment assistance activity funded by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment in the past 5 years
- Be starting a new business or taking over an existing business in which you have had no prior ownership
- Possess the specific skills and abilities for the proposed business
- Be approved for the program prior to starting your business activity
- Be one of the following:
 - Currently receiving Employment Insurance (EI) benefits
 - Received EI benefits within the last 3 years
 - Received EI maternity / parental benefits or had a medical EI claim within the last 5 years

Client Responsibilities

You will be expected to:

- Work at least 30 hours per week on your business
- Attend business information and orientation sessions as required
- Contribute equity into the business. The amount will be determined with your assigned Business Expert and will vary depending on your needs
- Develop a detailed business plan with the help of the Business Expert assigned to you.

Financial Assistance

Financial assistance may include:

- Travel costs
- Tuition and/or course costs
- Childcare costs
- Special equipment costs
- Special supports costs if you have a disability

You will continue to receive EI benefits throughout the program.

Your business' earnings will not be deducted from your EI benefits.

Financial assistance is available for up to 52 weeks.

