

Tax Credits, Subsidies and Loan Programs

Cheat Sheet

Name	What it is	How it works	Who is eligible	Zeifmans tip
Scientific Research and Experimental Development Tax Incentive Program (SR&ED)	Canadian-controlled private corporations can receive an enhanced refundable tax credit of 35% on the first \$3 million of qualified expenditures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Businesses can use the self-assessment tool to determine if their project meets the basic eligibility criteria and calculate their tax credit.Forms are filed with income taxes.The The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) determines if further technical or financial review is required. If yes, the file is sent to a coordinating tax services office.If it is determined that there is a refund owed, the payment is issued by cheque or direct deposit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Businesses that aim to reduce or eliminate a scientific or technological uncertainty.Businesses that adopt an overall systematic investigative approach (e.g. testing the hypotheses by experiment or analysis).Businesses whose purpose is to achieve a scientific or a technological advancement.Businesses with diligently logged records of the hypotheses tested and results achieved.	<p>New applicants can receive free in-person advice. Businesses who have worked with skilled tax professionals to prepare their taxation documents will be able to assist with this credit.</p> <p>Learn more about SR&ED from our SR&ED 101 webinar.</p>
Ontario Innovation Tax Credit: Refundable tax credit for R&D in Ontario	Refundable tax credit of 8% for innovative scientific research and experimental development expenditures in Ontario.	Corporations may claim the tax credit as part of the provincial credits and file it along with their T2 corporation income tax return. Qualifying corporations can claim a refundable tax credit for qualified expenditures on scientific research and experimental development performed in Ontario.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Businesses with permanent establishment in Ontario.Businesses that carry out scientific research and experimental development in Ontario during the applicable year.Businesses that are eligible to claim the federal investment tax credits.Businesses that are not exempt from corporation income tax.	Businesses that qualify for SR&ED, automatically qualify for this credit.
Non- Refundable tax credit for R&D in Ontario – Ontario Research and Development Tax Credit (ORDTC)	Reduce corporate income tax with a non-refundable tax credit of 3.5% for scientific research and experimental development expenditures in Ontario.	Corporations can claim the tax credit as part of the provincial credits and file it with their T2 corporation income tax return. The tax credit can only be used to reduce the Ontario corporate income tax payable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Businesses with permanent establishment in Ontario.Businesses that carry out scientific research and experimental development in Ontario during the applicable year.Businesses that are eligible to claim the federal investment tax credit.Businesses that are not exempt from corporation income tax.Businesses that have filed a scientific research and experimental development expenditures claim on federal form T661 for the tax year.	Businesses that qualify for SR&ED, automatically qualify for this credit.
Ontario Tax Exemption for Commercializing Canadian intellectual property	Refund of corporate tax paid within the first 10 taxation years for commercializing intellectual property (IP) in advanced health, bioeconomy (including clean energy technologies) and telecommunications, computer or digital technologies.	Certain newly established corporations in specific sectors are eligible for a refund of the corporate income tax and corporate minimum tax that the business paid in its first 10 taxation years.	Businesses must operate in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Advanced health.Bioeconomy (including clean energy technologies).Telecommunications, computer or digital technologies production. Businesses must be incorporated between March 25, 2008 and March 24, 2012, and cannot be formed by way of an amalgamation or merger. Businesses must be commercializing intellectual property developed at a Canadian university or college.	Businesses who have worked with skilled tax professionals to prepare their taxation documents will be easily able to source the paperwork necessary for this credit.
Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP) – Financial Assistance	Non-repayable contribution to develop, adopt or adapt innovative or improved technologies.	If it is determined that the National Research Council (NRC) IRAP support could benefit a businesses' development and growth strategy, they will be referred to an industrial technology advisor (ITA). The ITA gains an understanding of the issues the business is facing, opportunities for growth, and plans for the future. They can then develop a diagnostic to identify perceived gaps and recommend strategies for addressing them. Following the ITA's assessment, they may invite the business to develop a project proposal for financial support through NRC IRAP. Successful applicants will have taken into consideration: <ul style="list-style-type: none">The project's technical aspects and potential business impacts.Business, management, and financial capacity.Potential to achieve expected results.Commercialization plan.Market and commercialization opportunity.Anticipated benefits to Canada. Recipients will receive the financial contribution to share the costs of R&D project activities, and will need to submit monthly reimbursement claims to NRC IRAP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Businesses that are an incorporated, profit-oriented small or medium-sized business in Canada.Businesses with 500 or fewer full-time equivalent employees.Businesses with plans to pursue growth and profit by developing and commercializing innovative, technology-driven new or improved products, services or processes in Canada.	This program covers a portion of eligible costs mainly labour and contractor expenses.
Strategic Innovation Fund – Stream 1: Financial backing for R&D and commercialization	Non-repayable contribution to develop, adopt or adapt innovative or improved technologies. Get a contribution for eligible expenses to conduct R&D that will accelerate technology transfer and commercialization of innovative products, processes and services.	Applications are accepted on a continuous basis and there are no deadlines to submit a Statement of Interest (SOI). The SOI form will require the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none">A thorough understanding of the company, the proposed project's activities, objectives and outcomes.Demonstration of the management, technical and financial capacity to complete the project. To request the SIF Statement of Interest application package, please send an email to the address below and the SOI package will automatically be sent via e-mail: ic.sifadmission-fsiadmission.ic@canada.ca	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Businesses that are incorporated, for-profit entitiesSmall, medium and large firms across all of Canada's industrial and technology sectors.Businesses that are looking to undertake projects that encourage research and development (R&D) activities .Businesses with focus on accelerating the technology transfer and commercialization, and facilitation of the growth and expansion of Canadian firms.Businesses seeking to attract and retain large-scale investments to Canada.	This program will cover a maximum of 50% of eligible costs. Note: You can combine money from this program with money from other government programs to optimize your cash inflow – an experienced tax advisor can assist further on this.
Strategic Innovation Fund – Stream 2: Financial support for growth and expansion	Get a contribution for eligible expenses to support the expansion or material improvement of existing industrial or technological facilities, or projects.	Application requirements are the same as Strategic Innovation Fund – Stream 1: Financial backing for R&D and commercialization – see above.	Eligibility requirements are the same as Strategic Innovation Fund – Stream 1: Financial backing for R&D and commercialization – see above.	
FedDev Provincial Financing	Get a financial contribution to assist in scaling and expansion, the adoption and commercialization of innovative technologies and processes, or the diversification of markets.	Funding can be used to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Assist high-growth firms to scale up and expand.Support technology demonstration and the commercialization of new technologies.Encourage the early adoption or adaptation of leading-edge technologies and processes to improve productivity.Increase businesses' capacity to grow through market diversification and entry into global markets.Foster innovation, technology adoption and digital connectivity in rural areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Innovative and globally oriented businesses seeking to accelerate their growth.High-potential firms (including accelerator graduates) that are commercializing innovative products, technologies and processes.Firms with scale-up potential looking to improve productivity through the adaptation/adoption of highly innovative, first-of-its-kind technologies with the goal of global competitiveness and market expansion.Entrepreneurs and businesses in rural areas looking to grow, commercialize and improve productivity.	Applications can be submitted for no-interest, repayable contributions from \$500,000 up to \$10 million per project. Funding under this stream helps to accelerate the growth of firms, enabling them to become globally competitive.
Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC)	BDC has several loan programs targeting startups and technology-based companies.	Learn more about financing options for small businesses in the startup phase, who have been in operation for at least 12 months and have generated revenue: https://www.bdc.ca/en/financing/business-loans/pages/financing-starting-a-business.aspx Learn more about financing options for Canadian-based businesses, with good credit history who have been in operation for at least 24 months and generating revenues: https://www.bdc.ca/en/financing/business-loans/pages/small-business-loan.aspx	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Startups: Small businesses in the startup phase who have been in operation for at least 12 months and have generated revenues.Small Businesses: Canadian-based businesses, with good credit history who have been in operation for at least 24 months and generating revenues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Great for loan guarantees.No operational loans.Fund initiatives to enhance business capabilities.
Export Development Canada (EDC)	EDC has various programs to help Canadian companies of all sizes doing business beyond Canadian borders.	Learn more about EDC solutions: https://www.edc.ca/en/solutions.html	Canadian companies of all sizes doing business beyond Canadian borders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Great for export loans.Various programs to help businesses grow internationally.