

First Nations Youth Entrepreneurship (FNYE) Program

Frequently Asked Questions

1) What is the FNYE Program?

Aiming to support women entrepreneurs, First Nations Youth Entrepreneurship (FNYE) program provides start-up and expansion micro loans and grants for projects up to \$21,000 to eligible First Nations youth entrepreneurs. The FNYE program provides successful applicants with micro loans & grants, access to workshops & meetings and business coaching.

2) Who is eligible?

- First Nations youth with Status as well as First Nations businesses (51%) majority owned and controlled by First Nations youth.
- The applicant must be between the ages of eighteen and thirty-nine years old.
- To be eligible, applicants must demonstrate that FNYE financing is required and that other sources of financing have been exhausted
- Applicants must be residents of Ontario

3) What businesses/projects are eligible?

- Financing provided to support start-up businesses with potential to contribute to growth of income and employment
- Applications relating to farm and food production businesses are welcomed from applicants across Ontario. Also, applications relating to all business sectors are welcomed from applicants in South Central and Eastern Ontario.
- Financing provided for the growth and expansion of a promising project or enterprise to contribute to income and employment
- Full and part-time businesses
- Businesses located on or off Reserve

4) What costs are eligible?

- Purchase of machinery, equipment, leasehold improvements and renovations:
- Operating costs (wages, utilities, inventory, insurance, etc.); **owner's draws or salaries are ineligible.
- Marketing and promotional material costs; and
- Costs for business advisory and business training services
- Legal/accounting/technical supports; and
- Other start-up or expansion costs

5) What are the maximum amounts of the micro loan and grant?

Example of \$21,000 Project Funding Breakdown			
Project Costs		Funding	
Equipment	\$10,000	FNWE Loan	\$13,800
Working Capital	\$3,000	FNWE Grant	\$6,200
Business Fees	\$2,000	Equity	\$1,000
Inventory	\$6,000		
Total	\$21,000	Total	\$21,000

6) What is the interest rate and terms of FNYE micro-loans?

The interest rate is 6%. Financing will be termed out over 6 years with no payments for the first year and then 5 years to pay back. The loans are open and can be repaid at any time without penalty

7) What must I contribute?

Applicants must contribute a minimum of 5% equity.

8) Where do I get more information and an application?

For more information, email FNYE@firstnationag.ca or call 1.800.363.0329

9) What is the application process?

Once your application is received you will be contacted and additional information about your project may be sought. When all information is obtained, your application will be screened for eligibility. Should your application advance to the next step, the successful applicant will be required to submit a business plan and financial projections.

** Assistance is available throughout each step of the process.*

10) What information is required to apply?

The following documents are required for when submitting your application:

- Completed application form
- First Nations Status Card
- Driver's License

**Other business documentation such as financial statements, business plan, etc. are not required for the initial application but will assist in reviewing your file.*

11) When do my loan payments commence?

Loan payments commence one year after you receive your loan.