

# Indigenous Youth Entrepreneurship (IYE) Micro-loan Financing Program Fact Sheet

## Financing:

- IYE Micro-loan up to \$25,000
  - Up to 40% of the loan is non-repayable (based on need & availability)
  - Loan term: 1-3 years (Depending on financial projections)
  - Interest rate: from 4 to 8% (Depending on level of risk)
- Borrower must contribute a minimum of 5% of total project costs through their own cash - ie. project totals \$10,000, the borrower must contribute \$500 (5%) towards the total project cost

## Who Can Apply:

- First Nations youth aged 18-39
- Must provide proof of First Nation ancestry, such as a Status Card or genealogical documentation confirming First Nation biological ties
- Must have majority (over 50%) ownership and control of the business

## Eligible Businesses:

- Sole Proprietorships, Partnerships, Corporations, Co-operatives & Non-profit Social Enterprises.
- Side hustles, part-time businesses and gig economy businesses
  - Small-scale, flexible income-generating activities such as freelancing, online sales, or part-time contracting
  - Often operated from home or on a part-time basis.

## Project Requirements:

- Must be financially and technically viable.
- Must show potential for revenue generation and job creation.
- **Must include:**
  - Completed IYE Micro-Loan Financing Application
  - Project budget and financing plan
  - IYE Business Plan (template available)
  - First-year monthly cash-flow projections (template available)
  - Written Cost Quotes for all eligible costs to be financed

## Eligible Costs:

- Capital costs (equipment, renovations, inventory).
- Operating and working capital.
- Marketing, advisory services, and specific to the business (ie. Training on bookkeeping software)

## Ineligible Costs:

- Pre-application expenses: Any costs incurred before the submission of a complete IYE Financing Application package, including the Business Plan, cash flow projections, cost quotes, and all required supporting documents (e.g., IDs, resume, business registrations).
- Renovations to personal living spaces.
- Personal-use vehicles.
- Refinancing of existing debt.
- Non-arm's length transactions or purchases made at inflated prices.
- Business acquisitions lacking independent financial statements and a certified business valuation.
- Asset purchases exceeding fair market value.
- Costs related to amortization or goodwill.

## Credit & Financial Standing:

- Credit should be in good standing, but poor/no credit will be assessed case-by-case.
- Applicants must not be bankrupt.

## For More Information

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**IYE**  
Indigenous Youth Entrepreneurs