

DIGITAL SKILLS FOR YOUTH (DS4Y) PEI

PROGRAM INFORMATION



'Digital Skills 4 Youth PEI' (DS4Y PEI) is a new internship opportunity for Island youth delivered by the Department of Workforce and Advanced Learning (WAL) with funding support from Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED). The DS4Y PEI program will focus on connecting recent graduates to meaningful employment and giving them the skills to succeed in the digital economy.

WAL will partner with Island businesses or non-profit organizations who will act as 'Intern Host Organizations' (IHOs). IHOs will provide a recent graduate with professional experience and an opportunity to learn.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Eligible employers must demonstrate that they;

- are a for-profit business or not-for-profit organization with fewer than 100 employees
- can provide valuable employment opportunities related to digital activities and skills
- have the appropriate administrative support and capacity to train and mentor the intern to enhance and maximize the intern's experience
- allow the intern to attend short training courses to enhance their essential skills and digital skills

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

All types of proposals will be considered; however, priority will be given to employers who can provide the most beneficial experience to the intern, and provide the possibility of the internship leading to long-term employment. Special consideration will also be given to employers in rural areas, as well employers looking to hire youth facing employment barriers, Indigenous youth, members of a visible minority group, persons with disabilities, and women.

PROJECT DURATION

All internships must run a minimum of six months or 900 hours.

EMPLOYEE ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION

Once approved to hire an intern under DS4Y PEI an employer will commence the hiring process. The employer is free to hire the intern they feel will best serve their needs, but they must meet the following criteria;

- Be between 15 and 30 years of age at the start of the internship
- Have recently (within two years prior to the start of their internship) completed post-secondary studies, meaning a degree or diploma program from a recognized institution
- Be legally entitled to work in Canada

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

You can visit our website at www.skillsPEI.com, call SkillsPEI's General Inquiries Line at 1-877-491-4766 or visit one of the following SkillsPEI offices:

Atlantic Technology Centre	176 Great George St, Charlottetown	902-368-6290
Provincial Building	548 Main St, Montague	902-838-0674
Future Tech West	454 Main St, O'Leary	902-859-8898
Access PEI	120 Heather Moyse Dr, Summerside	902-438-4151

- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or person who has been granted refugee status
- Not in receipt of Employment Insurance during their internship and
- Self-assess as unemployed or underemployed, meaning they are employed below their level of education and/or hold part-time employments
- Not be an immediate family member of the employer

APPLICATION PROCESS

To be considered for a DS4Y PEI intern opportunity the employer must provide WAL with;

- A completed DS4Y PEI Application Form
- A detailed job description – outlining the duties the intern can expect, the proposed wage and terms of employment, and how your company will be providing an experience which will contribute to the intern's skill set

FUNDING

Through the DS4Y PEI funding, WAL will provide the IHO with a maximum of \$10,500 per intern in salary funds, understood to be 50% of the intern's total salary. The IHO must match that amount at a minimum.

WAL will also allocate \$3,000 per intern for 'Digital Skill Training' and 'Soft Skill Training' to be completed during the internship. This will be supported at no cost to the IHO, although the IHO must agree to allow the intern to participate.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

The April 12th 2019 deadline has been changed to a continuous intake of applications. Skills PEI will now support applications on a first come, first served basis until program funds are committed.

