

BC First Nations Post-Secondary Partnerships Program (PSPP) 2026-2027 Guidelines and Call for Proposals

Questions and Answers

Question: We want to deliver a language fluency certificate program but need to develop new courses for the program first. Should we submit two proposals (a proposal for Program/Course Delivery, and a proposal for Program/Course Development or Adaptation) or just one?

Answer: If you will be doing course development or adaptation as part of a program you are going to deliver within the timeframe for this funding (May 1, 2026 to May 31, 2027), these costs should be included in the same proposal for *Program/Course Delivery*.

However, if the program will not be delivered during this call year (i.e. after May 31, 2027), you should complete a *Program/Course Development or Adaptation* proposal and apply for funding to deliver the program through a subsequent call.

Question: Can we apply for funding to deliver a certificate in language fluency and a certificate in Early Childhood Education in the same call year?

Answer: Yes, you can apply for funding for more than one program in the same call year, provided that the total funding requested does not exceed the overall funding maximum of \$350,000. If you want to deliver two programs, two separate Program Delivery proposals are required.

Question: We would like to apply for funding to deliver a certificate program and an Adult Basic Education (ABE) program. Can both programs be included in the same proposal?

Answer: If completion of the ABE program is required for entry into the certificate program (i.e. ladders into the certificate program) and is intended to be delivered to the same cohort of students, they should be included in the same Program/Course Delivery proposal. If the ABE program and the certificate Program are independent of each other (i.e. completion of the ABE program is not required for entry into the certificate program, or there will be two separate groups of students taking each program), two separate proposals are required.

Question: Can we deliver a trades program with PSPP funding?

Answer: You may apply for funding to deliver a trades foundation program, provided that the program leads to a credential granted by a public post-secondary institution (for example, a citation or a certificate). Trades foundation programs result in students receiving credit for level 1 apprenticeship technical training, which is recognized by SkilledTradesBC and other post-secondary institutions for advancement in the trades. The transferability of level 1 apprenticeship technical training in the trades training system is considered equivalent to transferable academic credits.

However, apprenticeship technical training (training that registered apprentices are required to take each year of their formal apprenticeship) is not eligible for PSPP funding because apprenticeship technical training does not result in a credential that is granted by a public post-secondary institution.

Question: How is the \$50,000 per course maximum for Program Delivery calculated?

Answer: Applicants can only receive \$50,000 per course delivered, up to a maximum total of \$350,000. To find the maximum amount of funding you can request for Program Delivery, you can multiply the number of courses to be delivered by \$50,000. In addition to this, you can also access funding for Program/Course development or adaptation costs.

Examples:

Scenario 1: The funding requested exceeds the \$50,000 maximum.

Community A wants to deliver 4 courses towards a certificate. They have requested \$250,000 overall, which includes \$25,000 total for Program/Course development.

- Given that they are delivering four courses, Community A may apply for up to \$200,000 for Program Delivery (\$50,000 multiplied by 4).
- They can also request the additional \$25,000 for program/course development.
- As such, Community A may receive up to \$225,000 overall.

Community A's request of \$250,000 exceeds the maximum.

Scenario 2: The funding requested falls within the \$50,000 maximum.

Community B wants to deliver a diploma program, and they planning to deliver six courses with PSPP funding. They have requested \$320,000 overall, which includes \$20,000 total for Program/Course development.

- Given that they are delivering six courses, Community B may apply for up to \$300,000 for Program Delivery (\$50,000 multiplied by 6).
- They can also request the additional \$20,000 for program/course development.
- As such, Community B may receive up to \$320,000 overall.

Community B's request does not exceed the maximum.

Question: Can we partner with a public post-secondary institution outside of BC?

Answer: First Nations can partner with any public post-secondary institution in Canada, provided that programs include credits that are transferable to at least one other public post-secondary institution.

Question: How can I make sure that programs provide transferrable credits?

Answer: The public post-secondary institution should be able to advise about the ability of students to transfer the credits. The BC Transfer Guide also provides information regarding the transferability of credits across public post-secondary institutions located in BC (<https://www.bctransferguide.ca/transfer/outside>).