

Application – 2026 Starter Company Plus

(All information collected is confidential and for program purposes only)

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION INFORMATION			
*ALL FIELDS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE ENTIRE APPLICATION			
Legal Name of Applicant:	Are you a Business:	Owner	Partner
Legal Business Name with business registration number:			
Phone Number:	Email:		
Personal Address:	Business address:		
Type of Business Registration:	Sole Proprietor	Partnership	Corporation
Year/Month of registration:	HST Number:		
Business Bank Account No.	Insurance provider:		
Website:	Where does your business operate?		

The Small Business Centre covers the following areas: Hastings County, Lennox & Addington County, Prince Edward County, Belleville, and Quinte West

Priority Eligibility Criteria

Any business or person within the Small Business Centre’s geographical area is eligible to apply. The 2026 Starter Company Plus finance committee will be accepting all applications, however, to address local issues the committee will place priority consideration on the applications from applicants that:

1. Are opening new revenue streams
2. Are opening new partnership opportunities
3. Are opening growth opportunities

Eligibility Questionnaire. This section must be complete.

	YES	NO
Are you a full-time student or returning to school in the fall?		
Have you received funding through the Starter Company Plus grant program before?		
Will you be returning to school during the next year?		
Are you a majority owner or deciding partner in your business?		
Is your business registered with an address in Ontario?		
Can you commit to a minimum of 3 monthly mentoring session and 10 hours of training?		
Can you commit to investing a minimum 35 hours per week to run your business?		
Are your taxes current and is your business HST account is up to date with CRA?		
Are you a Canadian Citizen and permanent resident living in Ontario?		
Are you prepared to submit receipts to the Small Business Centre office when requested?		

#1 - Please describe your **business**.

- What is/are your product(s) or service(s)?
- What is it that makes you stand out from competition, your unique selling proposition?
- Outline your business growth in terms of revenue and profits by dollars or percentages.

#2 - What are the top three challenges currently impacting you, your business, or your industry?

#3 – Please provide details about yourself that support your past, current, **and** future success in the business.

#4 – What are your future business goals for this business? Explain your goals with the S.M.A.R.T. method. Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound.

#5 - Please list your intended purchases based on **quotes received not personal estimates**. If you do not have quotes for your intended spending, you may not receive the amount you have applied for. It is important to understand that you will not automatically be awarded the full grant amount, and you may only be awarded the grant amount based on your application value. The grant value awarded does not include tax. The largest grant is \$5000; however, your list below can exceed that amount. If one item is not eligible, another might be.

	<u>Item to be purchased</u>	<u>Base Cost</u>	<u>HST</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Example 1	Seed planter (used)	\$1200	none	1200
Example 2	Marketing: Vehicle wrap	\$3800	\$494	\$4294

6 – If successful with the grant, please describe how the purchases listed above will be used to benefit your business. Will there be staff changes, productivity or efficiency increases, or sales growth (use \$ or % figures)?

7 - Please describe how you and your business might be a part of the following categories:

- **Opening up new markets (for your business or overall, in your business industry)**
- **Opening up new opportunities (for yourself and/or other businesses)**
- **Opening up new local partnerships (any business partnership of any kind)**

8 – What is the biggest barrier you are facing in your business today and how do you plan to overcome it? (Related or unrelated to the details in this application.)

9 - How will you ensure the long-term sustainability of your business beyond this grant? What strategies do you have in place to maintain growth and stability?

#10 - Have you read the *Eligibility Description* outline found online? If any conflicts are in place, please reach out to the Entrepreneurship Officer to discuss.

YES NO

Name: _____

Signature _____