



Indigenous Youth Housing Internship Program (IYHIP)

What is the Indigenous Youth Housing Internship Program (IYHIP)?

A youth employment program providing work experience and on-the-job training for First Nations, Inuit and Métis youth. The goal of the program is to assist interns in gaining work experience and pursuing long-term employment in the housing sector, or a related field.

Who can be an intern?

- First Nations, Inuit and Métis youth between the ages of 15 and 30 inclusive.
- Must not be otherwise employed during the internship.
- Must not be receiving Employment Insurance benefits or must agree to discontinue the benefits before the start of the internship.
- We encourage internships for First Nations, Métis and Inuit youth, women, 2SLGBTQI+ youth, and youth with disabilities.

Who can be a sponsor?

- First Nations, Inuit and Métis governments and affiliated organizations (including Band Councils, Tribal Councils, self-government entities, and others)
- Indigenous organizations in the public or not-for-profit sector
- Indigenous businesses in the for-profit sector
- Non-Indigenous employers in the public, private, or not-for-profit sectors seeking to employ Indigenous youth

What are the sponsor's responsibilities?

- Sponsors must have the time and staff resources available to provide:
 - On-the-job training
 - Coaching and mentoring
 - Support for relevant skills development & technical training
 - Opportunities for interns to strengthen their skills in communication, teamwork, and problem-solving
- Sponsors must be willing to provide financial and/ or social supports intended to help intern overcome barriers to the internship (for instance, by covering travel or accommodation costs for youth with disabilities).
- Sponsors will cover the costs of administration related to the intern position. Some examples of costs include supervisor's time, use of office space and equipment, and provision of tools, technology and safety equipment required by the position.
- Sponsors must be willing to hire the intern(s) for a minimum of 8 weeks up to 52 weeks (one year).*
- Sponsors are encouraged to create diverse, culturally safe and inclusive workplaces and provide accommodations for youth with disabilities.
- Internships for women, 2SLGBTQI+ youth, First Nations, Métis and Inuit youth, and youth with disabilities are encouraged.

*Approval of year 2 of the internship is subject to funding.

To request an alternate format, please contact us at:

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What types of initiatives are eligible?

Any project or initiative that provides work experience or on-the-job training in the area of housing. These internship opportunities include positions in housing administration, maintenance, construction, renovation, tenant relations, or other relevant areas.

How much assistance is available?

CMHC will provide wage subsidies. The amount includes all mandatory expenses such as Employment Insurance, Canada and/or Quebec Pension Plans, Workers' Compensation premiums, vacation pay, and Northern allowance (if applicable) A sponsor must pay at least the minimum wage for their province or territory.

Skills training to support a successful internship may also be eligible for some financial assistance from CMHC.

Where can I learn more or sign-up?

For more information about the program or to sign-up, contact a Housing Solutions Specialist from CMHC's Indigenous and Northern Housing Team at www.cmhc.ca/indigenoushousingteam.