

**Aboriginal Community Based Training Partnerships (ACBTP) 2017/18 Call for Proposals -
Questions and Answers February 23 to March 23, 2017**

1. **Qu:** For a proposed ACBTP upgrading program towards an Adult Dogwood diploma, would all students going through the program need to graduate within the time period of the ACBTP proposal? There are students who are at very different levels in their education; would it be acceptable for some to achieve their Dogwood, while others would advance their studies and be able to continue to their Dogwood after the ACBTP proposal period?

Answer: Participants moving towards the achievement of a Dogwood would not necessarily need to graduate within the ACBTP proposal period. The Ministry would ask for an outline of how many participants would achieve the Dogwood within the proposal timeline, the target achievement for those not completing during this timeline, and a plan for how those not completing will continue on to their Dogwood after the period of the ACBTP proposal.

2. **Qu:** For the purpose of the 2017/18 ACBTP, can First Nations communities partner with Public Post-Secondary Institutions outside of the post-secondary catchment area?

Answer: Yes. As indicated on page 3 of the ACBTP Application Guide: *“an Aboriginal Community is not obligated to partner with the nearest Public Post-Secondary Institution, and can instead work with an institution in another region of the province to develop a proposal if the partnership is a better fit.”*

3. **Qu:** Can an organization that is not an Aboriginal Community or a Public Post-Secondary Institution be the lead proponent of an ACBTP proposal, partnering with the two required partnerships?

Answer: the ACBTP focuses on building partnerships between public post-secondary institutions and Aboriginal communities and the proposal must be jointly submitted by such a partnership. Another organization or group may partner with an Aboriginal community and a public post-secondary institution in an ACBTP proposal; however, this other organization or group would not be considered the lead proponent.

4. **Qu:** In discussion with a potential future First Nations partnership, the question about EI has come up. A number of community members have seasonal work within the community (over summer). Some of these community members work enough hours to be eligible for EI. My understanding is that 20% of seats can be used by participants eligible for EI, but have there been other programs inquire about having these programs be approved by EI as a government-training program, so participants can attend program while on EI.

Answer: ACBTP proposals are funded jointly through the ESS stream of the Canada-BC Job Fund Agreement and the Province of British Columbia, with approximately 80% of program funding through the ESS Stream, for participants not eligible for EI. Because of this funding arrangement, 80% of overall ACBTP program participants must be ineligible for EI.

5. **Qu:** Can we submit an application to the Community Adult Literacy Program (CALP) Call For Proposals to support an upgrading proposal we submit to ACBTP?

Answer: Proponents can submit to both, but CALP would not fund a program that was also being funded through the ACBTP.

6. **Qu:** Can we submit a proposal that supports a program that we have submitted under the Aboriginal Service Plan (ASP).

Answer: The Ministry will not provide funding for one program through both the ASP and the ACBTP.

7. **Qu:** If it is the will of the First Nation to have a program delivered at the partnering Post-Secondary institution, would it be considered?

Answer: The focus of the ACBTP is on community based program delivery. If a component of a program is not going to be delivered within the Aboriginal community we ask that a clear rationale be provided in the ACBTP proposal. This would include, noting how the program remains community oriented or focussed as well as letters of support from the community indicating support for the program being delivered at the partnering public post-secondary institution.

8. **Qu:** Can one apply for ACBTP funding specific only to year two or three? (Without applying for year one funding)?

Answer: Proponents can apply for funding specific only to year two or three, without applying for year one funding.

9. **Qu:** Do you have a definition of what you are considering occupational specific training to be?

Answer: If a proponent is able to identify labour market employment opportunities (as described on page 15 of the ACBTP Application guide) for specific training, then this would be considered occupational specific training.

10. **Qu:** Could a number of certificate programs that are under 3 months be considered standalone certificates if, with the addition of credit courses, the timeframe would span 3 months or more?

Answer: The certificates themselves would not be considered standalone certificates as they are each individually short-term certificates. To be a standalone certificate a public post-secondary institution, or the Industry Training Authority, would have to recognize it as such.

11. **Qu:** What was the intent of the distance requirement outlined on pages 13 and 14 of the Application Guide, whereby proposals are awarded additional points based on distance to the nearest post-secondary institution? Does this requirement provide an advantage to institutions with a provincial mandate, as these institutions are generally further away from Aboriginal communities?

Answer: The intent of awarding additional points based on the distance of an Aboriginal community to the nearest public post-secondary institution is to encourage partnerships with the more remote Aboriginal communities. The rationale is that learners in those communities would have more difficulty accessing post-secondary institution resources on their own, due to geographic isolation.

Regarding the awarding of points, as referenced in the Application Guide, points are awarded based on the Aboriginal community's distance to the nearest Post-secondary Institution, regardless of whether or not the Aboriginal community is partnering with that particular institution. So institutions with a provincial mandate would not be advantaged.

12. **Qu:** What is the overall dollar limit an institution can apply for and what is the limit or cap one can apply for, for one program?

Answer: There is no dollar limit per institution, or by program. The reasonableness of costs will be considered.

13. **Qu:** For smaller communities, would it be possible to include fee payers in the cohorts to offset the costs and ensure a full cohort is achievable? If yes, how would this incoming revenue be represented in the budget?

Answer: Proposals including fee-payers in their program design, should demonstrate what efficiencies may be gained by accepting fee-payers and how that will contribute to overall program success. The Proposal should identify how many ESS and AVED Participants it anticipates will access the proposed program and how many fee-payers. As well, ESS and AVED funding cannot be used to augment the costs for fee-payers. In the Proposal Form, the proponent would note the estimated fee-payer tuition under section 5 Reporting and Budgeting with a rationale on why fee payers would be included, ii. "Describe any additional sources of funding to deliver the program..." As well, given the goals of the ACBTP, fee-payers should be Aboriginal.