

# Funding Opportunity

## International Credential Recognition Fund

*Funded by the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education & Future Skills  
Administered by ASPECT BC*



### International Credential Recognition Fund (ICRF) FAQ

1. What is the purpose of the ICRF?

The ICRF aims to support projects that help individuals with international credentials gain recognition and access to employment opportunities. It provides funding for currently unfunded, innovative initiatives that address barriers and challenges faced by internationally trained professionals.

2. Can projects funded by the ICRF focus more on accessibility of evaluation aspects rather than that might help maximizing the number of beneficiaries?

Yes, the ICRF allows for flexibility in project design. While the focus is on maximizing impact, projects can allocate resources to activities such as developmental evaluation and assessing the effectiveness of different approaches. This allows for better understanding of what works and enables future improvements.

3. Is the Community of Practice open to partners beyond community-based employment service providers?

While the primary focus of the Community of Practice is on community-based employment service providers, there may be opportunities for collaboration with partners, such as employers. Their involvement can bring valuable insights and perspectives, especially in terms of program sustainability and transitioning participants into the workforce.

4. Are work permit holders eligible for the ICRF?

Yes, work permit holders are eligible for the ICRF. The fund aims to support individuals with currently unrecognized international credentials, including those who may face challenges in having their qualifications recognized.

Do rural and remote areas count as applicants to expand services beyond urban areas?

Yes, the ICRF encourages applications from rural and remote areas to expand services beyond urban centers. It recognizes that individuals in these areas may face unique challenges in accessing recognition for their international credentials. The fund aims to address these gaps and provide support across the province.

5. Is there a budget outline required in the application?

The ICRF follows a trust-based funding approach, and there is no specific requirement for a budget outline in the application. However, applicants should ensure that their funding request aligns with the project's scope, objectives, and expected outcomes. Justify the requested amount based on the resources needed to achieve project goals. Adequate record keeping is also required in case of future evaluation.

6. Can multiple applications be submitted?

Yes, applicants are allowed to submit multiple applications. However, it's important to focus on quality rather than quantity. Each application should clearly demonstrate a unique and impactful project idea. The evaluation will consider the merits of each proposal individually. No one organization will be awarded more than two grants.

7. How will the evaluation process determine the grant amount?

The evaluation process considers several factors, including project alignment with the funding guidelines and criteria. The evaluation team will assess each proposal and assign a rating based on how well it aligns with the guidelines. The grant amount will depend on the project's scope, budget requirements, and potential impact.

8. Can a project have multiple layers or programs for clients at different levels?

Yes, the ICRF supports projects that cater to clients at different levels and may have multiple layers or programs. This flexibility allows organizations to tailor their initiatives based on the specific needs of their clients. Projects can include various components to address language barriers, mentoring, skill development, and other support services.

9. How does the ICRF complement existing services provided by Work BC and career path programs?

The ICRF encourages collaboration and aims to fill gaps in existing services. Applicants should avoid duplicating services offered by programs like Work BC and career path programs. However, organizations can apply for funding to extend similar services to clients who are not eligible for existing programs, filling gaps in service provision and offering support to a broader range of individuals.

10. Will the ICRF funding be available for future opportunities?

The ICRF represents a unique funding opportunity, and its success may pave the way for future initiatives. However, there are currently no plans to extend funding past March 31, 2024. Organizations are encouraged to make the most of this opportunity to develop innovative projects and demonstrate their impact.

11. How will the ICRF address challenges in rural and remote communities?

The ICRF acknowledges the challenges faced by rural and remote communities in accessing support services. Applicants from these areas are encouraged to propose projects that address the specific needs of their communities. One of the aims is to support initiatives that can bridge the gaps in service provision and facilitate the recognition of international credentials in these areas.

12. What outcomes will be considered in the reporting and evaluation process?

The evaluation process will consider a range of outcomes aligned with the project's objectives. While there is no predetermined set of outcomes, applicants should clearly define their expected outcomes, which can include improved employment rates, increased recognition of international credentials, skill development, and successful integration of individuals into target sectors.

13. Is there a specific format or method for calculating outcomes?

The ICRF takes a trust-based approach, allowing organizations to determine the most appropriate method for calculating and demonstrating outcomes. Applicants are encouraged to use methods that align with their project's goals and target audience. Innovative approaches to outcome measurement and reporting are welcome.

14. Can two organizations submit a joint application?

Yes, two organizations can submit a joint application, especially if they share similar goals and can collaborate to achieve greater impact. Joint applications should clearly outline the roles and responsibilities of each organization and demonstrate how their partnership will enhance the project's outcomes.

15. Will organizations with be considered for lower grant amounts if they don't get approved for larger grant?

The ICRF aims to fund as many impactful projects as possible. The grant amount applied for should depend on the project's scope, budget, and potential impact. Applicants should justify their requested amount based on their project's needs and alignment with the funding guidelines.

16. How often will the Community of Practice meet virtually?

Every two months in October, December, and in February. A final report is due by the beginning of March.

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