



Business Advisory Centre

Am I Eligible for Starter Company Plus?

I am...

- 18 years of age or older and not in full-time education;
- Running a business, proposing a new business (launching within 4 months of the start of the program), expanding a business, or buying a company;
- A Canadian citizen or permanent resident living in Ontario, and operating the business within Peterborough & the Kawarthas;
- Prepared to commit a minimum average of 35 hours a week to your business;
- Prepared to attend five mandatory business training workshops (not applicable for qualified business expansions);
- Experienced with up to date training/licensing/ accreditation related to your business venture;
- Not concurrently or within the last 12 months, participating in any government-funded entrepreneurship program¹;
- Not in active bankruptcy;
- The owner (or soon-to-be-owner) of a business that is 5 years old or less

¹ Cannot be currently participating in *Futurpreneur*, *Farms at Work*, or any program funded in part by the Government of Ontario or Government of Canada. Cannot have participated in programs administered by Peterborough Economic Development (*Summer Company*, *Starter Company*, *B.L.A.S.T. Pilot Program*) within the last 12 months. Please discuss with program provider if you are unsure.

What type of business can I start?

- A legal business that follows all government rules and regulations and applicable municipal by-laws (for the City of Peterborough, Township or Municipality) you are operating a business;
- A sole proprietorship, general partnership, or corporation where the applicant is the majority shareholder;
- A business that operates at arm's length from an existing family business venture;

*Please note that seasonal businesses will be assessed on an individual basis.

Businesses not eligible for Starter Company Plus include:

- Partnerships that are 50% shared, franchises, commissioned sales and distributorships;
- Not-for-profit or charitable enterprises;
- Multi-level marketing ventures;
- Single, one time event, such as a festival, party, celebration, race;
- Businesses that are strictly pay per click and 1-800 number businesses;
- Peterborough Economic Development maintains a strict Code of Conduct Policy and as such, all Starter Company Plus participants are expected to perform their businesses with good judgement, integrity, honesty and impartiality and to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that recognizes the dignity and respects the rights of other. Participants that undertake business activities involving discrimination based on race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, disability or any other consideration or basis made unlawful by the Ontario Human Rights Code will be ineligible to apply and/or eliminated from the program immediately.

For more information, please contact:

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www.PeterboroughED.ca/starter-company-plus