

Graduate to Opportunity

is an employer funding program to help business's hire and retain **new grads** in Nova Scotia.

Year 1	Year 2
Employer receives: 25% of the salary (35% if the grad is diverse)	Employer receive: 12.5% of the salary

*GTO hire: Meghan Bartlett, MSVU grad
Employer: Cornerstone Research*



Who's it for?

Employer Eligibility

small businesses <100 staff
start-ups
non-profits / charities
social enterprises

Graduate Eligibility

completed education in last
12 months

Job requirements

must be a new, permanent,
full time position that pays a
minimum of \$30,000 annually

*GTO Hire: Shakisha Downey
Employer: Halifax Learning Centres Inc*

Highlights

- Over 1,400 graduates have been hired with GTO funding since 2015
- 80% remain working in their field in Nova Scotia
- You do not need permanent residency for this program
- The average salary is > \$40K



*GTO Hire: Charles McGregor
Employer: Barrington Consulting*



*GTO Hire: Somayeh Kafaie
Employer: Fundy Language Analytics*

You can use GTO to market yourself to employers!

- career events (virtually)
- interviews
- in job application packages
- To your old co-op employer!

Graduate to Opportunity

A potential employer could access funding to help create a full-time job for you post-graduation (up to 35% of your first year salary).



Check out the Job Catalogue

Updated weekly at: novascotia.ca/GTO



Get a GTO Eligibility letter

Simply e-mail me proof of graduation:



Margaret.Schwartz@novascotia.ca



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[Margaret Schwartz](#)



Labour and Advanced Education

1505 Barrington Street, 4 North
Halifax, NS B3J 3K5

August 14, 2020

Dear Employer:

This letter is to certify that **Graduate Name** will be eligible for hiring under the Graduate to Opportunity (GTO) funding program until **12-month end date**.

If you take advantage of the program, you will receive a subsidy of 25% or 35% of your new employee's first-year salary, and 12.5% of their second-year salary. The job ~~has to~~ be a new, permanent, full-time position that pays at least \$30,000 a year.

If you operate a small business of under 100 full-time employees, a start-up, a not-for-profit organization, or a social enterprise, you qualify for funding.

Applying for Graduate to Opportunity is easy and quick: we normally turn around complete applications within three or four days.

Hundreds of Nova Scotian employers have already made use of GTO, and they've discovered what a great impact a motivated, well-educated graduate can have on their businesses. These employers are also contributing to the retention of talented youth in our province and helping to secure our economic future.

I hope you'll consider making use of GTO. You can learn more and apply for funding at novascotia.ca/GTO. Remember that you need to be approved for funding before hiring the grad.

Thank you for considering the benefits a recent grad can have on your business.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick Alexander". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rick Alexander
Director of Youth Initiatives
Skills and Learning Branch
Department of Labour and Advanced Education