Gain MORE.

DRIVE Ability – Opening Doors

This program addresses the skilled labour needs of automotive and advanced manufacturing employers in Ontario, and includes a collaborative partnership between seven postsecondary institutions.

Its goal is to address talent shortages and provide quality, work-integrated learning opportunities for students, apprentices and new graduates.

Work placements
- Must be at least 10 weeks and up to four-month terms, beginning in May, September and January.
- Employers may be eligible for multiple work placements during the life of the program.

Benefits to employers
- Provides access to a pool of highly skilled and qualified individuals.
- Reduces recruitment and training costs.
- Builds company’s reputation as a leader in its sector.
- Opportunity to develop and train future employees.
- Gain fresh ideas and perspectives.

Funded by: Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development (MLTSD) and Career Ready Fund.

Participating postsecondary institutions: Conestoga College, Fanshawe College, George Brown College, Georgian College, Mohawk College, Sheridan College and York University

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
Contact Nick O’Connell at 705.728.1968, ext. 1132 or Nick.OConnell@GeorgianCollege.ca
Eligible employers

• Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) in the auto sector.
• Manufacturers in the auto supply chain to OEMs. At least 50% of company’s sales revenue must be from the automotive supply sector.
• Advanced manufacturers with a footprint in the auto sector. At least 30% of company’s sales revenue must come from the automotive supply sector. These employers may fall into one or more of the following areas:
  • Production activities dependent on ICT (Information and Communications Technology), automation, computation, software, sensing, and data transfer networking
  • Technology developers/suppliers

Eligible participants

• Students – diploma, certificate and degree students in any year of study, plus graduate and international students.
• Recent graduates – Those who completed their academic program of study in a program of at least one year, at a publicly-assisted postsecondary institution within the previous 18 months and currently do not have full-time employment.
• Apprentices – Those who, at the beginning of their work placement under this program, have signed new Registered Training Agreements (RTAs).
  • Before an RTA, the apprentice will receive training in a trade required as part of an apprenticeship program in Ontario.
  • The individual may have worked with the employer prior to starting the RTA but not as an apprentice.

Funding

• $3,000 per eligible and completed work placement by an eligible participant.
• $5,000 per eligible and completed work placement by an eligible participant with one or more disabilities.
• Wage support from all sources cannot exceed 100% of the wages paid to the participant.

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