



STATUS ENTREPRENEURS' ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SEAP)

Grant Funding & Equity Support for Status Entrepreneurs in Alberta

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Status Entrepreneurs' Assistance Program (SEAP) provides non-repayable grant funding (equity assistance) to help Status entrepreneurs start, acquire, or expand a business in Alberta. This grant helps reduce how much you need to borrow from a financial institution while strengthening your ownership and equity in your business.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Grant Type:** Non-repayable contribution (equity assistance)
- **Funding Coverage:** Up to 40% for start-ups and 30% for expansions/acquisitions
- **Maximum Grant:** \$99,999
- **Minimum Cash Equity:** 10% (may be reduced to 5% if your Nation contributes equity funding)
- **Project Size:** Must exceed \$20,000 in depreciable capital assets
- **Processing Time:** Typically 2–4 months

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

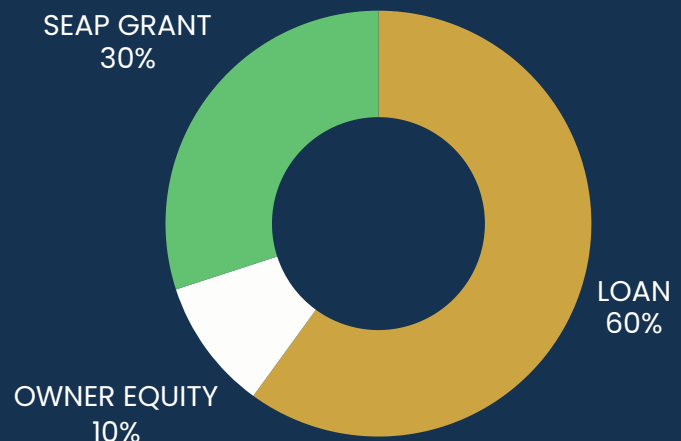
To qualify for SEAP, applicants must:

- Be a Status individual
- Live in Alberta for at least 12 months, and operate business in Alberta.
- Demonstrate 12 months of relevant industry experience
- Be actively involved in day-to-day operations
- Show that the business can generate at least \$20,000 annual income
- Secure commercial financing for remaining costs
- Provide a minimum 10% equity contribution
- Maintain majority Indigenous ownership (over 50%) if operating as a partnership or corporation

ELIGIBLE BUSINESS COSTS

Included: Equipment, inventory, leasehold improvements, business vehicles (essential use), marketing, website development, and working capital for start-up or expansion.

Not Included: Personal expenses, wages, debt refinancing, property or housing, and costs incurred before approval.



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BUSINESS PLANNING & AFTERCARE

Through SEAP, entrepreneurs can access up to 75% grant coverage for business planning and aftercare services provided by Winfire Business Services.

This includes professional help preparing business plans, cash flows, and grant applications - plus continued support after receiving financing from AIIC and SEAP to ensure long-term success.

HOW THE SEAP GRANT WORKS

- **Apply** : Submit your completed SEAP application and documents.
- **Initial Screening** : SEAP reviews your eligibility.
- **Final Approval** : Your project is assessed for grant eligibility.
- **Grant Release** : SEAP funds are issued after approved purchases or expenses are completed.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Status Card (front and back)
- Proof of Alberta residency
- Business plan & 12-month cash flow
- Quotes/estimates for project costs
- Résumé(s) showing 12+ months of experience
- Incorporation documents (if applicable)
- Financial statements (past 3 years for existing businesses)

CONTACT

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