

NSBI Productivity and Innovation Voucher Program (PNI Voucher) - FAQs

1. Who administers the program?

The program is delivered by Nova Scotia Business Inc. (NSBI) and overseen at Dalhousie by Industry Liaison and Innovation (ILI). Dalhousie must review and sign off on an application prior to submission.

<https://www.novascotiabusiness.com/export/productivity-and-innovation-voucher-program>

2. What are Vouchers?

A "productivity and innovation voucher" is a credit note that small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) can use to engage with Nova Scotia universities and colleges to make their businesses more innovative and productive.

There are two levels of vouchers that businesses can apply for.

Tier 1 vouchers are worth a maximum of \$15,000 and are provided to eligible small businesses who have not previously been awarded a voucher.

Tier 2 vouchers are worth a maximum of \$25,000 and allow previous voucher recipients an opportunity to build on the work done through their initial Tier 1 voucher award. Only previous voucher recipients are eligible to apply for a Tier 2 award.

The voucher projects can be made for a higher amount if agreed to in advance by the company and the researcher, with the company covering any costs above the awarded voucher amount.

All funds are managed by Dalhousie. No funds are directly available to the company.

3. What is the process for starting a project?

Once a project has been awarded, a research agreement between the company and Dalhousie is required before the project can begin. The template for this agreement is available for your review at the time of application. If changes to the template will be required, please contact ILI and discuss immediately. (Some changes cannot be accommodated.) When the agreement has been signed by all parties (in original wet ink), a green light email will be sent by ILI and the project can officially begin.

4. When are projects due to be complete?

All projects at Dalhousie need to be completed by February 15, 2019. This enables Dal to process all of the final paperwork for NSBI prior to March 15, 2019. Any work not completed by February 15th will not be eligible for reimbursement/payment.

5. Am I an eligible researcher for a Voucher?

Any Dalhousie Faculty Member with the appropriate skill set for the proposed project can be the Principal Investigator (PI), for a voucher project. Students and technicians can also be engaged for the project support.

A business may have only one active voucher at a time.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact:

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