



AMCTO
THE MUNICIPAL EXPERTS

AMCTO-Mitacs Municipal Innovation Internship Program (MIIP)

Webinar for Prospective Student Applicants

June 18, 2026



Webinar

- Slides and recording of the presentation will be sent to all participants and posted on the [MIIIP webpage](#)
- To participate in the Question & Answer portion, please post your question in the Q&A box
- If you are having technical difficulties, please use the chat function

Today's Agenda

- Importance of the Municipal Sector
- Overview of the MIIP
 - Opportunities Available
 - Student Eligibility
 - Student Application
 - Role of Academic Supervisor
 - Application Timelines
- Questions & Answers
- Contacts & Next Steps



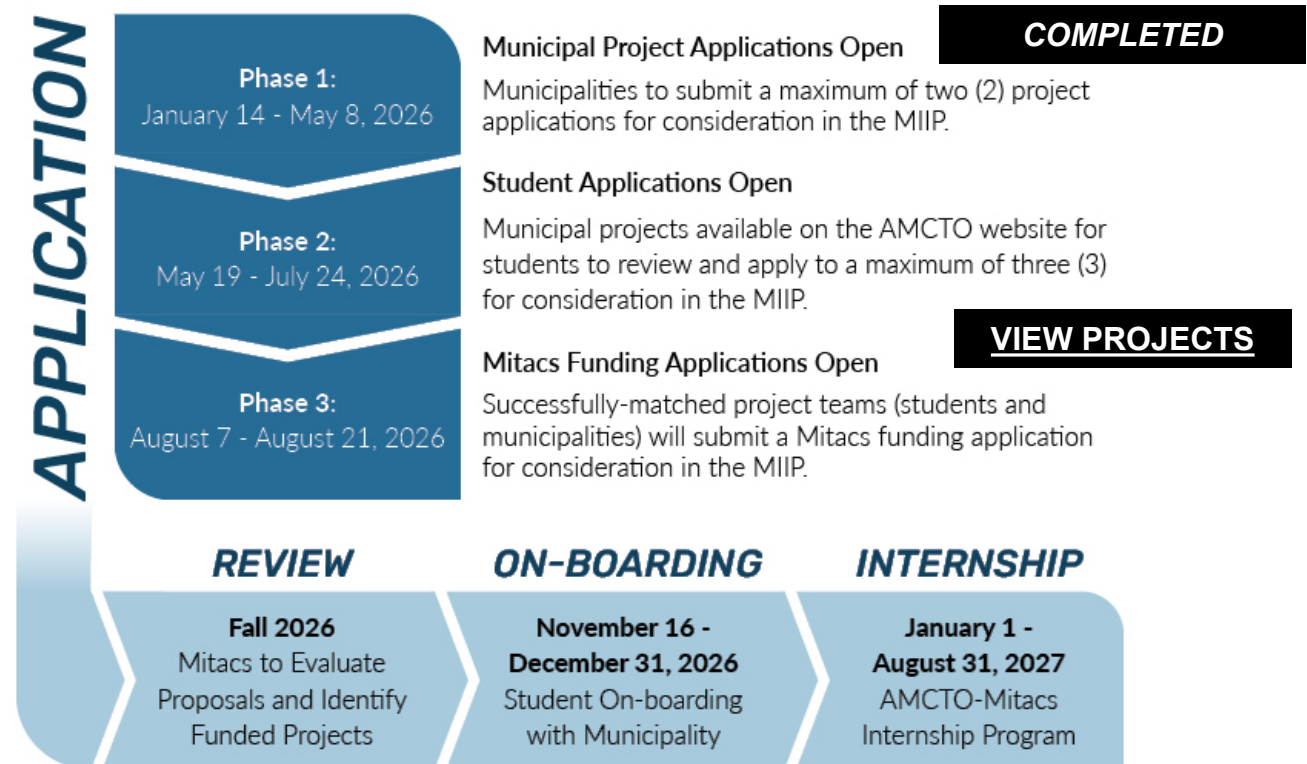
[MIIP Guide](#) and [Webpage](#)

Overview of the MIIP

- Twelve (12) paid, eight (8)-month part-time internship positions available (\$30,000 CAD/student)
- Open to post-secondary students in Ontario that are eligible to participate in the [Mitacs Accelerate program](#)
- Two-stage application process
- Students are encouraged to apply to up to three (3) projects*
- Internships will run from January 1 – August 31, 2027



AMCTO-Mitacs Municipal Innovation Internship Program Process Timeline



***Note:** the MIIP intends to provide a variety of different projects to as many students as possible. Therefore, only one (1) project per student will move forward to the final selection.

[Guide \(Pg. 9\)](#)

Goals & Outcomes of the MIIP

- Support the development of the next generation of staff leadership in the Ontario municipal sector while encouraging innovation in local government
- Provide post-secondary students enrolled or interested in public administration positions, with a meaningful and direct impact on their community(ies) by experiencing local government careers first-hand
- Provide valuable research to municipalities on behalf of academic institutions, while students develop new skills and experience in the municipal sector and build their local government and community networks

What Students Receive Under the MIIP

- A research stipend in the amount of \$30,000 CAD, to paid by the academic institution (not the municipality)
- Access to the [Mitacs Edge](#) training platform
- Access to AMCTO's [Student membership](#) which includes:
 - Complimentary virtual admittance to up to three (3) AMCTO professional development Forums during the internship period (January - August 2027)
 - Complimentary AMCTO conference registration including accommodations for the 2027 event (June 13-16 at Blue Mountain Resort)
 - Access AMCTO member affinity programs, the AMCTO job board, online member discussion forums, other policy and advocacy tools and resources, the opportunity to participate in year-round programming including the AMCTO Mentorship Program, committees, volunteer opportunities, etc.
- Approximate \$10,000 professional development value per intern

MIP Opportunities Available

There are **twelve (12) municipal innovation and/or research projects** available for potential matching by post-secondary students:

- Advancing Governance, Financial Stewardship, and Asset Planning in Community Housing (Regional Municipality of Durham)
- AI-Powered Services Automation and Intelligent Municipal Operations (Municipality of Clarington)
- Business Process Insight Initiative (Peterborough County)
- City of Ottawa Accessibility Maturity Model: A 'Nothing Without Us' Co-Design Framework (City of Ottawa)
- City of Owen Sound Modernizing Privacy Processes (City of Owen Sound)
- Data-Driven Municipal Asset Management and Capital Budgeting Systems Project (Township of Puslinch)
- Designing a “Property Passport” Model for Municipal Real Estate Records (Township of Ramara)

MIIIP Opportunities Available

There are **twelve (12) municipal innovation and/or research projects** available for potential matching by post-secondary students:

- [Enterprise Process Insight & Improvement](#) (Town of Tilsonburg)
 - [Future Ready: AI, Records and Workflow Modernization](#) (Municipality of Southwest Middlesex)
 - [Pelham Downtown Master Plan Updates](#) (Town of Pelham)
 - [Public Participation & Volunteer Support Modernization Initiative](#) (City of St. Thomas)
 - [Records Reimagined: Corporate Records Modernization Project](#) (City of Stratford)
- Students are invited to apply to up to three (3) MIIIP projects that are of interest to them; however, only one (1) project per student will move forward to the final selection as the MIIIP intends to provide a variety of different projects to as many students as possible.
- **The deadline for all applications is Friday, July 24, 2026, at 12:00pm ET**

MIIP Student Eligibility

- Post-secondary students in Ontario are eligible to participate in the MIIP, provided they are eligible to participate in the [Mitacs Accelerate program](#)
- Students from all academic programs will be considered; however, preference will be given if their studies are related to:
 - Local government administration and/or
 - Programs of relevance to individual municipal projects
- For the duration of the internship, students must:
 - Be legally permitted to reside and work in Canada by the award start date and live in Ontario
 - Be registered/enrolled as a full-time student in an undergraduate, college, masters, or PhD program at a publicly-funded academic institution in Ontario
 - Recognize that this part-time opportunity is intended to run in a hybrid work environment, and simultaneously with existing school terms (and course workload)
 - Recognize that the internship requires a maximum of four (4) in-person visits by the student to the municipality during the internship (at the cost to the student)

Student Application Criteria

Each student application must include information about:

- The academic program and post-secondary institution that the student is enrolled in, and their expected graduation date
- Their level of understanding of the municipal sector and clarity around what role they would like to undertake in the municipal project, why it is relevant to their studies, and their interest in pursuing a career in local government
- Anything else that the student deems relevant for the AMCTO Review Committee to know in the context of evaluation
- Eligible and complete applications will proceed to the project matching process for review by the AMCTO MIIP Review Committee
- No late submissions will be permitted

Role of Academic Supervisor

- Note that if you have not identified an academic supervisor already, we strongly encourage students to do so earlier than later
- At the time of application, the student must have identified an academic supervisor at their institution that:
 - Agrees to be actively engaged in the project
 - Is eligible to hold and administer research awards at your academic institution (e.g. Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) or Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grants)
 - Agrees to be responsible for administering the project funding at the academic institution (i.e., be the conduit between the academic institution and the student for the purpose of remitting payment)
- Contact Mitacs if you have additional questions about this role

Considerations When Applying

- AMCTO invites all interested individuals to apply. AMCTO is committed to diversity, equity and inclusion and values the voices, lived experiences and perspectives of individuals of all backgrounds
- Students cannot participate in a municipal project if they are employed by that municipality during the internship timeframe (January 1 - August 31, 2027)
- Conflicts may also exist if a student is a current or returning employee of the project municipality and/or the student has family members directly involved with the municipal project
- All students moving on to Phase 3 (Mitacs Application) will be required to complete a Mitacs Intern Eligibility and Conflict of Interest Declaration Form

Key Timelines

- **Phase 2: Student Applications – [open now](#) until Friday, July 24, 2026 at 12:00pm ET**
 - Students are invited to apply for up to three (3) different projects
 - AMCTO will notify successfully-matched project teams and facilitate an introduction of the partners – the student, academic supervisor, and lead municipal project contact – for the purpose of providing instructions on how to proceed to Phase 3
 - As part of this step, the lead municipal project contact and the student will be expected to meet remotely to ensure all parties are aware of their respective roles in putting together the Mitacs funding application
 - All municipalities and students who submitted eligible applications will be notified (regardless if they are approved to move forward or not) by AMCTO as to the status of their application(s)

Key Timelines

- **Phase 3: Mitacs Funding Applications** – open from August 7-21, 2026
 - Successfully-matched project teams (students and lead municipality) will submit a funding application for consideration
 - Note that this is a quick turnaround, so please be available during this time to ensure the application is complete and received on time
 - No late applications will be accepted



Questions & Answers



Next Steps

- Review the webinar recording and slides (to be posted in the coming days on the [MIIP webpage](#))
- Reminder that all [student application\(s\)](#) due: **July 24 @ 12:00pm ET**
- Find an academic supervisor (if you have not done so already)
- Read the [MIIP Guide](#) in its entirety to ensure you meet the eligibility requirements
- Share this information with your peers
- For more information, please contact AMCTO & Mitacs:
 - David Arbuckle, AMCTO Executive Director – amcto@amcto.com
 - Sarah Fairlie, Mitacs Senior Advisor, Social Innovation – sfairlie@mitacs.ca