

Funding for ERP and Cybersecurity: Ontario Grants Make It Possible

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Implementing a new ERP system or upgrading your technology to meet cybersecurity standards is no small feat—it's a significant investment. Beyond the software purchase and implementation costs, there's the time and effort your team will need to dedicate to selecting the right systems, tweaking your processes, and getting up to speed with the new tools. For small to mid-size businesses in Ontario, this can feel overwhelming.

You might find yourself in a frustrating catch-22: you *know* upgrading your ERP software or bolstering cybersecurity is crucial to improve performance and keep growing, but the cash just isn't there to make it happen. If this resonates with you, you're not alone.

The good news? The Ontario government offers a range of grant and loan programs specifically designed to help businesses like yours adopt new technology and stay competitive. Even better, CyberCare Pro is here to guide you through the process, ensuring you get the funding and support you need. Keep reading to learn how these grants—and our expertise—can make your technology implementation journey smoother and more affordable.

Funding for Cybersecurity & ERP Assessment and Implementation

1. Ontario Centres of Innovation (OCI)

OCI offers support for small and mid-size enterprises (SMEs) to implement digital technology such as cybersecurity, ERP, etc. that will improve productivity, enhance growth and lead to a more sustainable economy. The Digital Modernization and Adoption Plan (DMAP) and Technology Demonstration Programs (TDP) cover assessments, software, hardware and services.

Funding available: Grants cover 50% of consulting and technology costs. The DMAP's grant is capped at \$15,000 and the TDP program is up ton \$150,000 in grant funding.

Who's eligible: Ontario-based for-profit SME's that are incorporated, have less than \$100M in revenue and 8-10 employees.

What to consider: The DMAP and TDP grants are highly competitive and applications are opened-up at various times during the year. To apply, OCI requires that you work with an approved OCI vendor (CyberCare Pro is an approved vendor with OCI, contact us for details).

2. National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP)

NRC IRAP offers multiple programs to help small and mid-size enterprises (SMEs) with internal innovation challenges. For Cybersecurity and ERP projects, The Digital Technology Adoption Program funds labour and sub-contractor costs associated with technical and business innovation projects.

Funding available: Grants can cover up to 80% of direct labour costs and 75% of sub-contractor fees, capped at \$100,000.

Who's eligible: Canadian for-profit SMEs that are incorporated, have less than 500 full-time employees and a plan to pursue growth.

What to consider: NRC IRAP runs Canada-wide with ongoing intakes until funds are exhausted each fiscal year. To apply, be prepared with a business plan demonstrating your new innovations and how you will develop them, company financials, and resumes of key team members.

3. Canada Small Business Financing Program (CSBFP)

The <u>Canada Small Business Financing Program</u> is a federal government program that offers SMEs low-interest loans to support business improvement initiatives, including ERP software.

Funding available: There is up to \$1.15 million in funding available per project, with a maximum of \$1,000,000 available by term loans. Up to \$150,000 can be allocated for intangible assets and working capital, and up to \$150,000 is available for lines of credit.

Who's eligible: SME's or start-ups operating in Canada with gross annual revenues of \$10 million or less. Farm businesses are not eligible.

What to consider: This program is run through authorized Canadian financial institutions. These institutions will base the loan interest based on market rates plus a 2% registration fee. The registration fee can be financed as part of the loan.

4. Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Competitiveness (AMIC)

The <u>AMIC program</u> provides grant and interest-free loans to advanced manufacturing SMEs in rural Ontario for capital equipment upgrades, technology adoption and skills development. Priority is given to projects that create jobs, help companies leverage new technology to further business growth and improve competitiveness.

Funding available: Projects can receive ERP funding up to 15% of eligible costs. Interest-free loans up to 15% of funding (max of \$5 million) are also available during the project period, up to 4 years. The program also offers advisory services to support skills and talent, health and safety and environmental plans. If you achieve your investment and job or upskilling targets, up to 30% of the loan (to a maximum of \$500,000) may be forgiven.

Who's eligible: Ontario-based advanced manufacturing companies based in rural areas, with 10 or more employees and at least 3 years of financial statements. Companies must commit to invest at least \$500,000 in their project and create or upskill 5 jobs.

What to consider: There are two application periods each year, with the first period opening in early 2025.

5. Ontario Automotive Modernization Program (O-AMP)

The <u>Ontario Automotive Modernization Program</u> is targeted at small and mid-size automotive parts suppliers in Ontario who need to invest in technology to become more competitive and responsive to changing customer needs. Eligible projects include implementing advanced manufacturing software (like ERP), cybersecurity upgrades to meet compliance requirements, or training to improve processes and competitiveness.

Funding available: Up to 50% of eligible project costs, with a maximum of \$150,000. Your business must contribute at least 50% of the project costs through your own funding.

Who's eligible: Small and mid-size businesses in the automotive supply chain with a manufacturing location in Ontario. Eligible companies must have less than 500 employees and less than \$1 billion in global revenue.

What to consider: At least 50% of your total revenue must come from the auto supply sector and your project must align with O-MAP's goals (e.g. increased revenue, lower costs).

6. Southern Ontario Business Scale-up and Productivity (BSP)

The <u>FedDev Business Scale-up and Productivity</u> program supports businesses in southern Ontario adopt new technologies that improve productivity and grow exports.

Funding available: Zero-interest repayable contributions, from \$125,000 to \$10 million per project.

Who's eligible: Businesses in southern Ontario with at least 5 full-time employees. Companies must have at least 65% of the project funding secured and have the financial capacity to complete the project and repay the contribution.

What to consider: The program's next application period is set for winter 2025.

7. Northern Ontario Business Scale-up and Productivity (BSP)

The <u>FedNor Business Scale-up and Productivity</u> stream aims to accelerate business growth for northern Ontario companies to adopt new technologies (such as ERP or cybersecurity) that support productivity and expansion.

Funding available: Investments up to \$500,000 per project, covering 50% of eligible costs. Repayment terms are determined on a case-by-case basis.

Who's eligible: For-profit and non-profit organizations with a minimum of 2 years in operation and potential for market growth benefiting northern Ontario. Companies must have the financial capacity to complete the project, as well as the managerial, technical and operational capacity to achieve the project's objectives. Indigenous businesses are also eligible.

What to consider: Funding amounts are determined based on the minimum amount for the project to proceed, the applicant's ability to repay and the extent to which other sources of funding have been leveraged.

ERP Funding for Training

8. Canada Job Grant (CJG)

The Canada Job Grant is a federal initiative administered provincially. Each province administers the grant program differently, but typically will cover 50% - 100% of eligible training costs for your Cybersecurity or ERP implementation.

Cybersecurity and ERP training funding available:

- <u>Canada-Ontario Job Grant:</u> Reimbursement up to \$10,000 per person, with employers contributing one-sixth of the training costs if they have less than 100 employees. Companies with more than 100 employees must contribute 50% of the training costs.
- <u>BC Employer Training Grant:</u> Employers can receive up to \$300,000 per year under the program (April 1 to March 31).
 - The Workforce Training Stream covers 60% of training costs, to a maximum of \$5,000 per person, for training that aligns with the employer and employee needs.
 - The Technical Training Stream covers 80% of training costs, up to \$10,000 per person, to help employees learn new technical skills in response to automation and other tech advancements.
- <u>Canada-Alberta Job Grant:</u> Reimbursements for two-thirds of eligible training, up to \$10,000 per individual and a max of \$300,000 per fiscal year. Application period opens on March 31st, 2025.
- <u>Canada-Saskatchewan Job Grant:</u> Reimbursements for two-thirds of eligible training, up to \$10,000 per individual and a max of \$100,000 per fiscal year.

What to consider: This grant is intended to help businesses train new or existing employees to reduce skill gaps and create opportunities for employment or advancement. These grants are for new training programs. Be aware that eligibility requirements and training qualifications vary by province, so check the guidelines carefully before submitting your application.

Other ERP Funding Methods

As you can see, there are many options available to help you pay for your technology implementation. But securing government funding requires a significant time investment.

Some technology companies can help fund your project directly. Some ERP vendors offer financing at low interest rates and leasing can be a viable option for the right company as well.

The takeaway is this – implementing new ERP will improve your financial performance in the long-run, so don't wait. There are financing options available to help you see results faster.

Interested in chatting more about your ERP options? Connect with our team today.

About Us

At **CyberCare Pro**, we don't just protect your business—we power its growth. Based in Ontario, Canada and Orlando, Florida, we partner with small to mid-size businesses (SMBs) to secure their digital operations and unlock new opportunities through tailored cybersecurity and technology implementation solutions. Our mission is simple: turn your technology investments into competitive advantages while safeguarding your future.

Our Approach

We take a proactive, business-first approach to cybersecurity. Instead of offering one-size-fits-all fixes, we dive deep into your unique challenges—whether it's securing your IT system, hardening your network, or preparing your team for tomorrow's threats. By blending cutting-edge technology with practical strategies, we deliver solutions that don't just protect—they empower your business to thrive.

Our Values

- Integrity: We build trust through transparency and accountability.
- Innovation: We stay ahead of threats and trends to keep you competitive.
- **Partnership**: Your success is our priority—we're in this together.
- **Excellence**: We deliver top-tier service, every time, no exceptions.

Delivery Choices

Flexibility is at the core of what we do. Choose the services that fit your needs:

- **Consulting**: Strategic guidance to assess risks and plan upgrades.
- Implementation: Hands-on cybersecurity deployments.
- Training: Custom programs to upskill your team.

Managed Services: Ongoing support so you can focus on growth.

With CyberCare Pro, you get solutions tailored to your timeline, budget, and goals.

Focus on Workforce Development

Your team is your greatest asset—and we're here to strengthen it. Our workforce development programs turn employees into cybersecurity champions and ERP experts. We align our training with workforce development grants of up to \$15,000 per person to make upskilling affordable and impactful. A skilled workforce isn't just a cost—it's an investment in resilience and productivity.

Our Experience

With years of expertise serving SMBs, CyberCare Pro brings a proven track record. We've helped organizations optimize their data, shielded retailers from ransomware, and guided businesses through grant landscape. Our team of certified professionals (CISSP, CEH, and more) combines technical knowhow with a deep understanding of local business needs.

Creating Value: Cybersecurity as an Asset

We don't just defend—we create value. Strong cybersecurity reduces downtime, builds customer trust, and ensures compliance, while a well-implemented technology infrastructure sharpens processes and boosts profitability. With CyberCare Pro, your technology becomes a growth engine. Our clients have cut costs, won contracts, and scaled confidently—all because they turned cybersecurity into a business asset.

Ready to protect and grow your business? CyberCare Pro is your partner for cybersecurity and technology success. Contact us today to see how we can create value for you.