



# RISE to the challenge

Research Inspired Student Enrichment  
2024–2025 Awards Guidelines

  
Newfoundland  
&  
Labrador

## Program Overview

The Research Inspired Student Enrichment (RISE) Awards provide Newfoundland and Labrador high school students with the opportunity to attend research-related enrichment programs focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Through these awards, the Department of Industry, Energy and Technology (IET) and the Innovation and Business Investment Corporation recognizes the need for early development of the talent required to advance Research and Development (R&D), innovation and economic growth.

Successful applicants will attend one of three summer enrichment programs in 2025:

**Research Science Institute (RSI)** is a partnership between the Center for Excellence in Education (CEE), a not-for-profit organization based in McLean, Virginia, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), which offers a six-week summer enrichment program in the Boston, Massachusetts area, emphasizing advanced theory and research in STEM fields. This program introduces students to the entire research process, from literature review to experimental design and analysis.

**Da Vinci Engineering Enrichment Program (DEEP)** is a four-week program held at the University of Toronto, which offers pre-university engineering and science enrichment and research project design opportunities.

**Boston Leadership Institute (BLI)** is a three-week program held in Wellesley, Massachusetts offering STEM research programs taught by top educators and researchers. Ranked among the top five summer science enrichment programs in the USA, this program provides students with an opportunity to develop high-level research skills and subject matter expertise through lectures, presentations and hands-on experiments.





## Objective

The main objective of the RISE Awards is to expose Newfoundland and Labrador high school students to innovation and research activities at an early stage in their education. Exposure to research programs assists students to consider career paths in STEM.

## Eligibility

Current Level II students attending high school in Newfoundland and Labrador are eligible to apply for these awards. Students must meet the following criteria to be considered for an award:

- Minimum 90% in each course completed in Level I
- Minimum of eight (8) credits in science and mathematics courses to be completed by the end of 2024-2025 academic year (Level II), including those completed in Level I

Confirmation of enrollment in at least eight (8) credits in science and mathematics courses by the end of Level II will be required via a copy of your official 2023-2024 (Level I) transcript issued by the Department of Education or a PDF copy of your transcript generated by PowerSchool is acceptable. A copy of registered courses for the 2024-2025 academic year is required and can either be certified by a school administrator or a PDF copy of your course enrollment generated by PowerSchool is also acceptable.

Beyond the general eligibility criteria specified, applicants being considered for a RSI award will be subject to a more stringent screening process, due to the demanding nature of the RSI curriculum. If RSI is indicated as the applicant's first choice of program, then the following criteria will be used:

- Minimum of 12 credits in science and mathematics courses to be completed by the end of the 2024-2025 academic year (Level II), including those completed in Level I

Note: Applicants must be in a position to travel to the supported enrichment program, including having a valid passport for travel outside Canada or be able to obtain a B-2 Tourism Visa for the US (<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visitor.html>). Fees and travel required to obtain the B-2 Tourism Visa are the responsibility of the applicant. International students should have a Canadian study permit that is valid for four months after the travel return date.

### **Obligations**

Applicants indicating RSI as their first choice of program should be aware of the additional requirements of attending the RSI program, which may include supplemental advanced reading material and coursework. Applicants are responsible for ensuring their awareness of the program requirements independent of the application to IET. Students attending DEEP will be responsible for registering for STEM research based curriculum courses.

### **Award Structure and Level of Support**

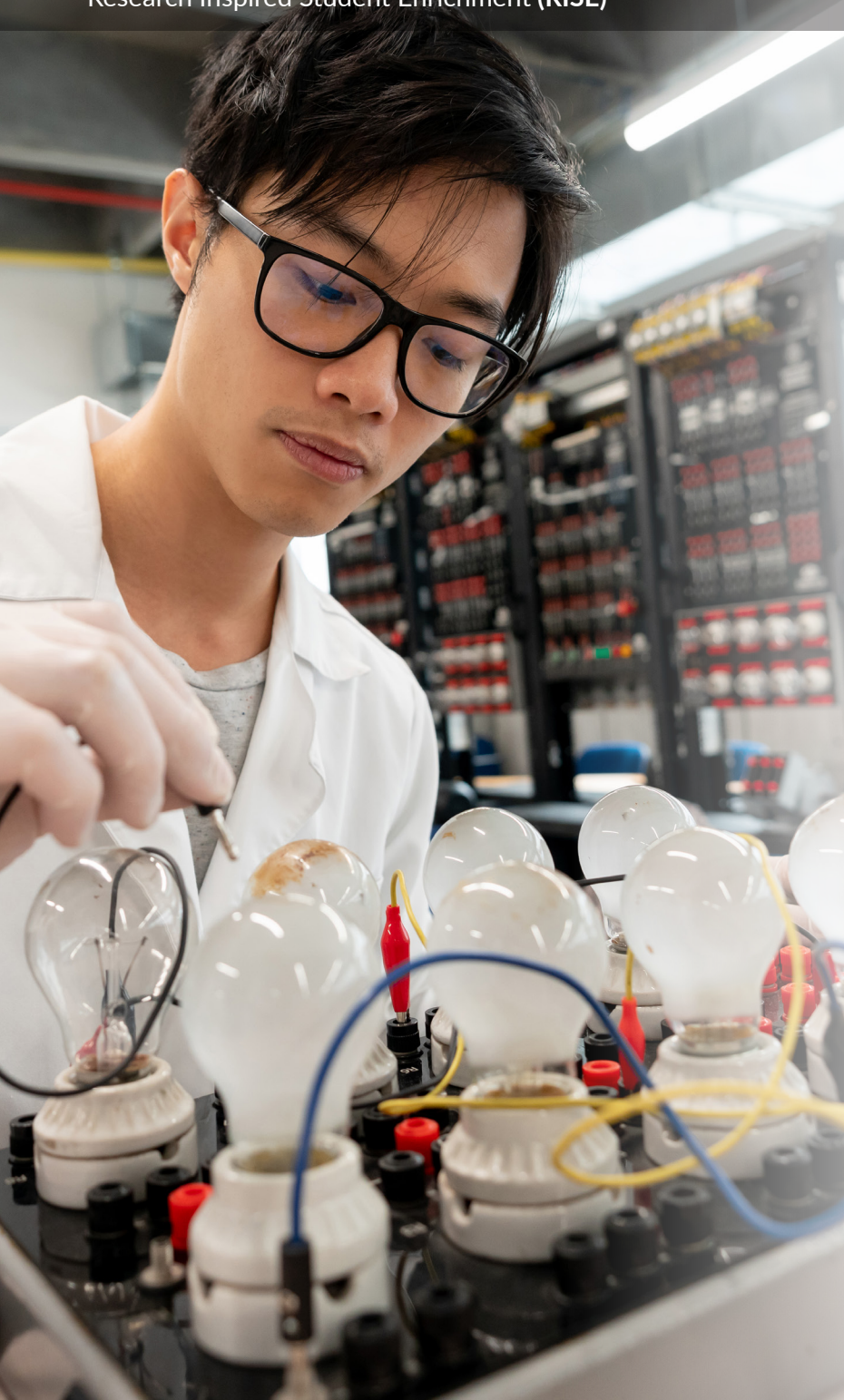
A maximum of one (1) placement to RSI and seven (7) placements to BLI will be available under the RISE Awards, along with up to twelve (12) placements for DEEP. A maximum of 20 awards will be approved under this program. Applicants are required to rank the enrichment programs in order of preference, but there is no guarantee that a first choice will be offered.

Registration fees will be paid directly to the enrichment program by IET and will cover full tuition and living expenses, including accommodations and most meals. Successful applicants will receive a travel/expenses stipend to cover travel expenses to and from the enrichment program.

### **Application Process**

A complete application package must be submitted electronically to [angelijarvis@gov.nl.ca](mailto:angelijarvis@gov.nl.ca) by 11:59 PM NST on December 2, 2024.





The application package must include the following four (4) documents:

- Completed application form
- Copy of the applicant's official 2023-2024 (Level I) transcript issued by the Department of Education
- Copy of registered courses for the 2024-2025 academic year certified by the school administrator
- Essay as per guidelines at the end of the application to be submitted in either Word or PDF format

**Note: Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.**

Applications will be assessed based on academic achievement and essay. Academic achievement includes the overall average in Level I, grades in completed mathematics and science courses in Level I, and the level and number of mathematics and sciences courses to be completed by the end of Level II. Essays should describe your preparedness for the enrichment program and potential interest in Research and Development. How has your background prepared you to attend an enrichment program?

The following considerations are relevant:

- Previously completed enrichment programs
- STEM-related work/volunteer experience
- Science fair participation
- Other relevant Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics activities

Also, comment on your future study, career and research interests, and how those interests are relevant to Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are your plans for after high school and beyond?  
(Maximum 500 word essay)

## Disbursement

Following notification by IET, successful RISE Award applicants will then be required to apply directly to the enrichment program using the submission procedures and timelines required by the respective program. RSI applicants must be nominated by the department to apply for that program, whereas other RISE Award holders will apply to either DEEP or BLI according to their awarded enrichment program.

IET will disburse the registration fees for each program directly to RSI, DEEP or BLI, where applicable. The travel/expenses stipend will be disbursed to the successful applicant. Prior to disbursement of the travel/expenses stipend, IET will require confirmation of acceptance in the enrichment program.

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