What is the Building Collaboration and Capacity in Education Grant Program? It is a one-time conditional grant funding opportunity for three-year projects that focus on:

- Supporting collaboration in the development of and implementation of action plans; and
- Supporting First Nations capacity to participate in provincial initiatives.

What is the purpose of this grant program? The purpose is to increase opportunities for First Nations students to receive coordinated education programs and services that are responsive to their needs by enhancing collaboration, coordination, and capacity building among education stakeholders. This supports the Government of Alberta’s commitments under the Memorandum of Understanding for First Nations Education in Alberta to pursue targeted and strategic funding opportunities to increase the success of First Nations students who reside in a First Nations community and attend a provincial school.

Who can apply? Funding to support collaborative planning is available to:

- individual First Nations;
- First Nations organizations providing education services (e.g. Tribal Councils);
- public, separate and charter school authorities who have existing Education Services Agreements for First Nations students who reside on-reserve and attend provincial schools.

Funding to support First Nations school authorities capacity to participate in provincial initiatives is available to:

- individual First Nations;
- First Nations organizations providing education services (e.g. Tribal Councils).

How much funding is available? A total of $20 million over three years is available through the Building Collaboration and Capacity in Education Grant Program.

What is the application deadline? The deadline for applications and proposals is March 1, 2016.

Is it possible to partner with other First Nations or provincial school authorities on a submission? Yes. Individual First Nations, First Nations organizations providing education services, and provincial school authorities are able to collaborate and partner on the submission of a joint application and proposal. Funding for joint proposals may be pooled in order to maximize resources.

I'm interested in applying. Where can I find an application form? The first step in the application process is to contact:

First Nations Education Initiatives Branch
First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Division, Alberta Education
Phone: 780-644-8415
(dial 310-0000 first for toll-free access in Alberta)
Email: EDC.FNEI@gov.ab.ca

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1 The program will be reviewed annually to ensure the program is meeting its stated purpose and objectives.