

**PAID EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY with the eCampusOntario SXD Lab**

The eCampusOntario Student Experience Design (SXD) Lab is an innovation hub that tackles some of the most complex problems facing post-secondary education today. The focus is on student-led innovation. Why? Because students have historically been excluded from meaningful participation in the design and operation of the higher education system that exists to serve them.

This year, the SXD Lab is leading the creation of a series of open templates to support experiential learning (EL). What is experiential learning? This definition from Lewis and Williams (1994) is a helpful starting point: “In its simplest form, experiential learning means learning from experience or learning by doing. Experiential education first immerses learners in an experience and then encourages reflection about the experience to develop new skills, new attitudes, or new ways of thinking.”

The eCampusOntario SXD Lab is recruiting energetic and industrious students to participate in a meta-experiential learning opportunity to design a series of templates for EL activities. The designed templates are intended to help solve the problem of *how might we help institutions scale experiential learning with technology*. We’re testing a hypothesis that you can help co-design, to help future students access meaningful experiential, work-integrated learning opportunities.

Lewis, L.H. & Williams, C.J. (1994). In Jackson, L. & Caffarella, R.S. (Eds.). *Experiential Learning: A New Approach* (pp. 5-16). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

**DESCRIPTION:**

**Compensation:** \$1000

**Length of term:** October, November and December (30-35 hours in total)

**Location:** Virtual and in-person (downtown Toronto)

**Work details:** Part 1: *Training + Journey Mapping* / Part 2: *Session participation* / Part 3: *Template completion*

**Other benefits:**

- Paid work experience on real world innovation projects;
- Skill development with design and innovation processes;
- Relationships with other students and mentors;
- Opportunities to contribute to the enhancement of the Ontario post-secondary student experience.

**TIMELINE:**

Activity	Approximate Timeline
Applications due	September 22
Students selected	September 27
Orientation and training days	October 15 or 16
Work begins	October 17
Journey Mapping	October 17-31
Synthesis Sessions	November 4-12
Design Sessions (six two-day sessions)	November 20 – December 10

*Note: Attendance is mandatory for the orientation / training session AND one design session, all occurring downtown Toronto.*

## **ELIGIBILITY:**

All Ontario publicly-funded college or university domestic students (or recent graduate – one year or less) from any discipline are eligible if they meet the following requirements:

1. Capable of working productively in virtual and office environments;
2. Able to commit approximately 30-35 hours of in-person and virtual work;
3. Able to work and meet deliverables as part of a team;
4. Able to work in English;
5. Have access to a computer;
6. Reside in Ontario;
7. Graduating from a college or university program within a year or two.

*Please note that workloads may fluctuate depending on deliverables and requirements. A high tolerance for ambiguity is necessary. If duties are not being met, contracts may be terminated with sufficient notice.*

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

Please submit a resume and portfolio (or something you have made that demonstrates your creativity, skills and/or work style) to Chris Fernlund at [sxdlab@ecampusontario.ca](mailto:sxdlab@ecampusontario.ca) by September 22 before 11:59pm. Please include the following in the body of your email:

1. Relevant experience in a brief cover letter format (please do not attach a separate cover letter);
2. Proof of current student or recent graduate status, e.g., screenshot of enrollment letter or the use of your institutional email;
3. Your discipline (current program);
4. Your first/last name, mailing address and email.

Please include the following as single or separate attachments:

5. Resume;
6. Portfolio or demonstrable work.

*Note: Please do not exceed two PDF attachments with your submission.*

## **OTHER INFORMATION:**

SXD Lab students will work as self-employed, independent contractors. This opportunity does not deem you an employee of eCampusOntario. Priority skills and experiences:

- Design processes and tools;
- Collaborative workstyle;
- Creativity;
- Project management;
- Adaptability and comfort with ambiguity;
- Time management.

## **WHAT'S THE SXD LAB ALL ABOUT?**

The SXD Lab uses human-centered design processes and tools to (re)design optimal student experiences. We do this by working with the end users of education: students. We hire, train and coach students from across Ontario to design innovative solutions to clearly defined problems impacting the student experience.

The philosophy of the lab is to learn by making and doing. This enables students to take advantage of experiential learning opportunities and utilize design practices to enhance the post-secondary system and contribute to [open innovation](#). *Note: All SXD Lab products and outputs are openly licensed ([what is an open license?](#)).*