

## BioTalent: Student Wage Subsidies

We are all aware that COVID-19 has placed significant financial and human resource pressures on Waypoint. The hospital continues to find ways to provide quality patient care despite these pressures, and your dedication and contributions every day has made this possible.

To help ease some of these pressures, BioTalent, an HR firm working to grow Canada's bio-economy, has recently made student wage subsidies available for healthcare organizations in response to COVID-19. As of October 7, 2020, there were 1100 wage subsidies still available for healthcare organizations.

Here's what you should know about the wage subsidies:

- The subsidies are available retroactively from May 25, 2020 until March 2021. Currently, a student can apply for 3 semesters (Summer 2020, Fall 2020 & Winter 2021) and the hospital can receive the funding for each semester (retroactive application/payment is allowed).
- The wage subsidies cover the cost of a student's salary by 75% up to a maximum of \$7,500 per semester.
- The subsidy will cover clinical and non-clinical roles (business, tech, admin, etc.) within healthcare.
- There is no limit to how many applications an employer can submit or receive for the student wage subsidies.
- Students must be enrolled as a full-time or part-time student at a Canadian post-secondary education institution
- Students do **not** need to be full time/temporary full time employees but must work a minimum of 15 hours/week.
- The subsidies are allotted on a first-come, first-served basis, making it important to apply as soon as possible.

**We have many employees across the hospital who are, or were, recently enrolled as part-time or full-time students while working at Waypoint. If this is you, we need your help!**

In order for Waypoint to apply for these wage subsidies, they need your support and agreement as a current or recent student. The Talent Management team will complete the application on your behalf to ensure there is a very limited amount of work for you to do. In appreciation for your assistance with this initiative, a \$10 gift card will be provided to those whose completed applications are received and approved by BioTalent, and these employees will also be entered into a draw for a \$100 gift card. As previously mentioned, time is of the essence as we are competing for these wage subsidies with healthcare organizations across Canada and they are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you have been or will be a student between May 25, 2020 to March 2021, and working as an employee during the same timeframe, and are in agreement with supporting the hospital in applying for these subsidies, please reach out to **Jen Binns** – HR Assistant in Talent Management, via email at [jbinns@waypointcentre.ca](mailto:jbinns@waypointcentre.ca) as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance for your collaboration in pursuing this program. Your ongoing commitment to Waypoint, our staff and patients is greatly appreciated.