

Museum Sector Employment FAQ



For Job Seekers

Where are jobs in the museum and heritage sector posted?

Museum and heritage sector jobs are frequently posted on the free job board which is accessible through the [Canadian Museums Association](#) and the [Canadian Heritage Information Network](#). Museums may also post positions on their own websites, through listings with their respective [provincial or territorial museums association](#) or on Service Canada's [Job Bank](#). Third party sites, such as [Charity Village](#) and [Work in Culture](#), are also frequently used by nonprofit sector employers.

Jobs for youth created through the Young Canada Works program are posted on the [Young Canada Works website](#).

How do I find a volunteer position or unpaid internship with a museum?

Volunteering in a museum is a great way to build upon your experiences, learn about Canadian culture and network with museum professionals. Museums often post volunteer opportunities on their website. Please consult the online directory at the [Virtual Museum of Canada](#) website to find and contact local museums about available volunteer positions.

Opportunities may also be posted with local volunteer centres. To find your local volunteer centre, please consult Volunteer Canada's [website](#).

I'm an international candidate who is looking for an internship in Canada. How do I find a placement?

Some Canadian museums may have the resources to host international interns. Candidates should contact the museums with which they wish to intern directly and inquire if any positions are available. Please consult the online directory at the [Virtual Museum of Canada](#) website to find museums in the city or region you wish to visit. Candidates should be aware that many museums may only have the resources to offer unpaid placements and there may be further visa requirements between your country and the Canadian government.

How can I acquire formal training in museum studies and related disciplines?

Several Canadian colleges and universities offer formal training for prospective museum workers. Please consult the list of [training courses](#) available.

Aspiring museum professionals are strongly encouraged to become involved with the [Canadian Museums Association](#) and their respective [provincial or territorial museums association](#). Through these professional associations, museum professionals can access member services, conferences and professional development opportunities.

For Employers

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My museum will be creating a new position. How much should I be paying?

Offering a competitive salary is important when establishing a new position in your organization. Examining other positions on the job boards may provide you with some comparable job descriptions and salary ranges. You can also purchase the most recent National Compensation Survey through the Canadian Museums Association [bookstore](#). The survey analyzes the salary and benefit data of 40 position classes in museums.

How can I make my museum's position more attractive to potential candidates?

Offering a competitive salary is just one way that museums can attract a skilled workforce. Extended health care and dental coverage, retirement savings assistance, professional development allowances and flexible work hours are other common benefits that many Canadian museums are offering to employees. To learn more, you may wish to order the most recent National Compensation Survey through the Canadian Museums Association [bookstore](#). The survey analyzes the salary and benefit data of 40 position classes in museums.

Are there any employment programs to assist my museum with hiring staff?

The federal government funds several programs under the [Youth Employment Strategy](#). As a part of this strategy, the Department of Canadian Heritage offers the [Young Canada Works](#) program to the museum and

heritage sector. Service Canada also offers the [Canada Summer Jobs](#) program, which has benefitted many museums in past. A complete list of Youth Employment Strategy programs is available [here](#).

The Department of Canadian Heritage also offers other [funding programs](#) which may be used towards the cost of hiring special programming staff.

Museums are also encouraged to inquire about available funding programs with their respective provincial or territorial governments. .