



Wrench The Dream Grant Criteria

OBJECTIVES

COPA 177 wants to support our local aviation community by providing grants to apprentices working towards licensing as Transport Canada aircraft maintenance engineers. We will help individuals to gain the knowledge, skills, tools and licences required to maintain and repair small aircraft, by providing a grant to cover the costs for courses, exams, conferences and tools.

THE GRANT

The grant is valued at up to \$1000 a year provided by COPA Flight 177 with the help of other supporting organizations.

The grant value is to cover the apprentice's proposed expenses, which may be less than \$1000.

Multiple grants may be awarded to several apprentices, provided the sum of the grants is less than \$1000.

Eligible Expenses Include

- **Courses and Conferences**

Technical, soft-skills, classroom and on-line training and books, AME Ontario Conference
Example courses; human factors, mental wellness, small business operation, REGS exam prep, etc.
Example suppliers; AvAero Council, Aircraft Maintenance Engineers of Ontario, Mohawk College, etc.

- **Training**

Training that provides specialized skills, knowledge or qualifications
Examples, manufacturer's courses, fabric covering, composite repairs, airframe welding, etc.

- **Travel**

Travel and accommodation expenses to attend courses, training, conferences and exams will be considered.

- **Tools**

Tools to augment basic starter tools.
Examples; tool boxes, borescopes, specialty wrenches, maintenance jigs, jacks, etc.

Any expense that enhances the apprentice's ability to provide general aviation services to local light aircraft will be considered.

Payment of Expenses

Payment will be made directly to the successful apprentice by the COPA 177 treasurer for their use as described in their application.

Duration of the Scholarship

The grant is valid for 1 year from the date of award.

Wrench The Dream Grant Criteria Continued

GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION

1. Applicants must be working as an apprentice under the supervision of an AME in Ontario Canada.
2. Preference is given to applicants working within the area local to COPA Flight 177 Exeter aircraft.
3. Applicants must not have written the Transport Canada REGS exam.

EVALUATION

Applicants will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Their plans for the use of the grant money.
- Their progress towards AME M1, E or S licensing.
- Their supervising AME's recommendation.
- Informal observations of the applicant and discussion at the work location by representatives of the committee.

APPLICATION

Application forms are available from members of COPA 177, local supervising AMEs, or the COPA Flight 177 website at <http://copaexeter.ca/amegrant.php>. Paper forms may be requested by emailing copa177grant@gmail.com.

Completed applications must be received no later than midnight **May 1, 2026**. Email the completed form to copa177grant@gmail.com or mail to

"Wrench The Dream" Scholarship Committee
C/O Sexsmith Pilots Limited
PO Box 163
Exeter, ON
N0M 1S6

THE GRANT PROCESS

1. The grant is contingent upon the COPA 177 Treasurer confirming at the beginning of each calendar year that there are sufficient funds to offer the grant.
2. The grant information will be posted on the COPA 177 website and communicated to local aviation maintenance organizations and other stakeholders.
3. Shortly after the application deadline, the grant committee will review the applications received and use the selection criteria to identify the best applicants for further review.
4. The supervising AMEs will be contacted to confirm the submitted information. Interviews with the best applicants arranged at their work location. The grant committee will select the successful applicant.
5. The successful applicant(s) will be offered the grant(s). The grant must be received in person at a mutually agreed COPA Flight 177 planned event, in or near Exeter, Ontario. The event will be publicized in local media and on the COPA 177 website.
6. The successful applicant will be encouraged to join COPA National, to participate in COPA Flight 177 planned events and meetings, and to engage with their local aviation community as a way to enhance their general aviation experience. In November, the successful applicant will be asked to write a short report or give a brief presentation to COPA Flight 177 about how they used the grant and how it enhanced their ability to service light aircraft.
7. If the committee decides that no suitable applicant is forthcoming in the current year, no grant will be awarded.
8. The decision of the grant committee is final.