

MEMORANDUM

TO: Apprenticeship Service Providers

FROM: Sarah McQuarrie
Director, Apprenticeship Branch
Employment and Training Division

DATE: April 2, 2019

SUBJECT: Changes to the 2019-20 Transfer Payment Agreements for Apprenticeship

As the ministry begins to release the 2019-20 Employment Ontario transfer payment agreements, I would like to highlight some key changes to the agreements.

Overall, the changes support the government's red tape reduction priorities, its focus on value for money and high quality client services by streamlining program and financial reporting requirements. As a result, service providers will spend less time processing reports, freeing up time to deliver services to apprentices.

Program Reporting

During the upcoming fiscal year, the ministry will introduce a new interim and final report to replace the Quarterly Status and Adjustment Report. The new interim and final reports will capture the achievement of performance commitments and if needed, will include plans to improve results. Due dates will be outlined in Schedule F of the 2019-20 agreement.

Program affected: Apprenticeship Enhancement Fund (AEF).

Address restricted scheduling issues

The Training Delivery Agent (TDA) application was recently updated to include language to indicate that In-class Training recipients must be committed to providing timely, appropriate and fair access to any apprentices without prejudice to membership

in any union or employer associations. Language in the 2019-2020 In-class Training agreements have been updated to reflect this change.

Program affected: In-class Training (Seat Purchase).

Improving Utilization Rate of Declined Seats:

To improve the utilization rate of declined seats, TDAs will begin in 2019-2020 to confirm in the EOIS-APPR a Participant's acceptance of an offer of classroom training upon 2 business days of notification. Therefore, the EOIS-APPR system will generate an offer of schooling to the next eligible apprentice and could improve seat utilization.

Program affected: In-class Training.

Setting Standards for Apprenticeship Classes

Currently, there are discrepancies in passing marks among Training Delivery Agents for various programs. As the Province moves to a stronger focus on performance and outcomes, language in the 2019-20 In-class Training Agreements is updated to begin the collection of pass marks of all classes. Additional details on this process will be forthcoming.

Program affected: In-class Training.

Article 8.2 Publication

Article 8.2 has been amended in Schedule B with an added requirement that service providers include the following statement in all project-related publications: "The Government of Ontario and its agencies are in no way bound by the recommendations contained in this document."

Program affected: In-class Training and AEF.

Auditor's Report

Service providers are required to obtain an auditor's report depending on the transfer payment agreement funding amount. To further streamline reporting, the threshold for the requirement of an auditor's report will increase from \$100,000 to \$150,000 for fiscal

year 2019-20 per agreement. Auditors will also be required to submit a copy of the auditor's report directly to the ministry. Additional details on this process will be forthcoming.

Service providers such as municipalities, school boards, colleges of applied arts and technology and universities **will be exempted** from submitting auditor's reports.

Programs affected: All Apprenticeship programs.

I encourage you to review the terms and conditions of your Ontario transfer payment agreements.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact your Employment and Training Consultant.

Sarah McQuarrie
Director

Cc: Jennifer Barton, Eastern Region Director
Andrew Irvine, Northern Region Director
Daniel Kay, Western Region Director
Tariq Ismati, Central Region Director