

Memorandum

To: Employment Ontario Delivery Partners

From: Cordelia Abankwa, Assistant Deputy Minister
Employment and Training Division
Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Date: July 13, 2021

Subject: **Second Career Redesign – Phase 2 Launch**

Dear Employment Ontario delivery partners,

As the COVID-19 pandemic has left many people without a job or limited opportunities to find work, it remains the Ontario government's priority to support laid-off workers to retrain for a new career. The Second Career program continues to help laid-off workers pay for tuition and living expenses for those who want to participate in training for in-demand occupations.

Since the implementation of Redesign Phase 1 in December 2020, the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development has continued its efforts to improve the Second Career program.

Today, the government has announced the second phase (Phase 2) of the Second Career Redesign with additional program changes that will provide better support to participants in their journey to a new career path.

As you may be aware from the training sessions which took place in the last few weeks, alongside the implemented changes in Phase 1, the Phase 2 Redesign includes the following key enhancements made to the program:

- A new funding model to simplify the application process, which will determine:
 - the support amounts clients receive using a mixture of actual costs and flat rate amounts where possible, adjusted based on need; and
 - updated support amounts to reflect the current cost of living.
- Improved client experience by streamlining the application process, including:
 - updated PDF application forms; and
 - a pilot project to test a newly developed digital portal to access online application.

It is anticipated that the Phase 2 changes will improve participant access and experience by reducing administrative burden and enabling the program to more efficiently respond to participant demand.

Individuals interested in the Second Career program can connect with their Employment Ontario service provider to access this program. For more information, refer to the associated documents, forms, and questions and answers which will be posted on the Employment Ontario Partners' Gateway (EOPG)'s [Second Career page](#). For any additional questions, please contact your Employment and Training Consultant or your Service System Manager.

Further information about Phase 3 of the redesign will come later this year.

Thank you again for your ongoing commitment to supporting job seekers, employers, and your local communities.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Cordelia Abankwa
Assistant Deputy Minister
Employment and Training Division

cc: David Carter-Whitney, Assistant Deputy Minister, Workforce Policy and Innovation
Division