

Program Delivery Support
Branch

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Memorandum

To: Employment Ontario Network Service Providers

From: David Cronin
(Acting) Director, Program Delivery Support Branch

Date: August 8, 2019

Subject: Access to Employment Ontario Programs for Individuals with
900-Series Social Insurance Numbers

Employment Ontario programs have a variety of eligibility and suitability requirements that determine an individual's ability to participate in a program. The ability to work in Canada legally is only one factor in determining an individual's ability to participate in Employment Ontario programs.

While there have been no recent policy changes regarding eligibility for services, there has been inconsistency about the application of eligibility criteria for those clients with a 900-Series Social Insurance Number (SIN).

This memo provides policy clarification regarding access to Employment Ontario programming for 900-Series SIN holders. SINs that begin with a "9" are issued to individuals who require a SIN for employment purposes but are not Canadian Citizens or Permanent Residents.

Individuals with a 900-series SIN and an open work permit awaiting their official documents for permanent residency are eligible to apply for the full range of Employment Ontario

programs, depending on the program's eligibility and suitability requirements. These individuals include:

- Protected Persons, those determined by the Refugee Protection Division of the Immigration and Refugee Board to be either:
 - a) a Convention Refugee; or
 - b) a person in need of protection
- Those in Canada on a temporary work permit who have been granted Permanent Resident status.

Refugee claimants with a 900-series SIN and an open work permit are eligible for consideration for supports under the following Employment Ontario programs provided all other program criteria is met:

- Employment Service, including Ontario Employment Assistance Services
- Youth Job Connection
- Canada-Ontario Job Grant
- Literacy & Basic Skills
- Second Career
- Ontario Job Creation Partnerships
- Ontario Bridge Training Program.

International students and temporary foreign workers with a 900-series SIN may access self-directed components of Employment Service (i.e., Resource and Information) but may not access other assisted service components of the program.

International students who require career and employment assistance should connect with the career services supports at their educational facility.

Chart: Access to Employment Ontario Programs for Individuals with 900-Series SINs and an open work permit

Eligibility for Employment Ontario programs	Refugee Claimants	International Students	Temporary Foreign Workers
Employment Service, including Ontario Employment Assistance Services	Yes – all service components	Yes – self-directed components only	Yes - self-directed components only
Youth Job Connection	Yes	No	No
Canada-Ontario Job Grant	Yes	No	No
Literacy & Basic Skills	Yes	No	No
Second Career	Yes	No	No
Ontario Job Creation Partnerships	Yes	No	No
Ontario Bridge Training Program	Yes	No	No

Service providers are encouraged to assist individuals with 900-series SIN in determining their eligibility for Employment Ontario programming based on the criteria above.

Alternatively, individuals with questions about eligibility for Employment Ontario programming may be directed to the Employment Ontario Contact Centre:

- Call toll- free: 1-800-387-5656
- TTY number: 1-866-533-6339
- Email: contactEO@ontario.ca