



June 8, 2010

Dear Second Career Partner,

I am writing to update you on minor program modifications being made to Second Career.

Second Career (SC) continues to be a success. Changes made to the evaluation process in November 2009 have contributed greatly to the success of the program. As of the end of March 2010, we have helped over 28,000 people enrol in SC training.

The 2010 Ontario Budget announced that the government will continue to provide support for unemployed Ontarians by funding an additional 30,000 unemployed workers for short-term and long-term SC training over the next two years.

The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities continues to work with our partners to ensure that the programs and services we offer respond to the needs of Ontarians. These modifications to SC will provide greater flexibility for assessing individual applications. Effective June 8, 2010, the suitability assessment matrix will be modified in the following areas:

- Active Job Search
- Duration of Unemployment
- Work History
- Experience: Occupational Skills

Individuals who were assessed at an Employment Ontario (EO) Assessment Centre on or after November 23, 2009 and were rejected based on suitability will receive a letter in early June from the Ministry advising them of the changes and inviting them to initiate a reassessment of their SC application, should they wish to be reconsidered. Individuals who were rejected based on **eligibility** will not receive a letter as a result of these modifications.

Individuals who initiate a reassessment should be given the opportunity to review their previously submitted SC application with an EO Assessment Centre staff member. Priority of clients should be based on the date of their original SC application with a preference for September 2010 starts, if a backlog of SC applications exists.

Individuals will not be asked to complete a new SC application if minor changes are made to their information. If there are major changes, such as a change in the labour market information they provided or a change in the training program they would like to pursue, they may be required to complete a new SC application. Second Career will continue to offer laid-off workers support for tuition, books, travel and other expenses to help them participate in training.

The updated SC Guidelines will be posted on the Employment Ontario Partners' Gateway (EOPG) on June 8, 2010, and will provide additional details on how to assess returning individuals.

You will be invited to attend an overview of the SC modifications commencing June 8, 2010. Specific details will be shared with you through your local Ministry office.

For more details about the SC guidelines and other modifications, including answers to frequently asked questions, please visit <http://www.ontario.ca/secondcareer>. If you have any other questions, please contact your local Ministry office.

I understand that this has been a challenging time for our Employment Ontario Assessment Centres. I appreciate your continued support and cooperation as we work to provide greater opportunities for Ontarians to receive the training they need to succeed in today's job market.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Laurie LeBlanc
Assistant Deputy Minister
Employment and Training Division