

Memorandum

To: Employment Ontario Network Service Providers

From: Annette Huton, Director
Program Delivery Support Branch

Date: December 28, 2022

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.

This memo provides policy clarification regarding access to Employment Ontario programs, including Integrated Employment Services 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.

The December 2022 update includes changes regarding full-time postsecondary International Student access to the Skills Development Fund.

Individuals awaiting Permanent Residence status

Individuals with a 900-series SIN and an open work permit who have received preliminary approval from the federal government and are waiting for their permanent residence status to be finalized 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 received a letter or document from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada confirming that they meet the eligibility requirements for permanent residence (i.e. approval in principle).

Refugee Claimants

Refugee claimants with a 900-series SIN and an open work permit are eligible to apply for the full range of Employment Ontario programs, depending on the program's eligibility and suitability requirements.

Visitors under Emergency Travel measures

Visitors under Emergency Travel measures enacted by the federal government, including the Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) measure, with a 900-series SIN and an open work permit are eligible to apply for the full range of Employment Ontario programs, depending on the program's eligibility and suitability requirements.

Visitors under Emergency Travel measures, such as CUAET, who do not have a 900-series SIN and an open work permit can access self-directed components of EO programs -- e.g. the Resource and Information component of Employment Service -- but cannot access assisted service components of EO programs.

Temporary Foreign Workers with an employer-specific work permit

Temporary foreign workers with a 900-series SIN and an employer-specific work permit, can access the Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) program.

Temporary foreign workers with a 900-series SIN may access self-directed components of EO programs but cannot access assisted service components of EO programs.

International Students

Full-time postsecondary international students are eligible to apply for participation in approved Skills Development Fund projects.

International students with a 900-series SIN may also access self-directed components of EO programs but cannot access other assisted service components of EO programs.

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

Questions?

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

Thank you,



Annette Huton
Director

cc: Nadine Scott, Director, Strategic Workforce Policy and Program Branch
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