



Information session – Social assistance application process

Vision

Achieve better job outcomes for Ontario Works program participants by increasing individual employability in order to obtain sustainable employment and greater financial independence.

Mandate

Provide employment assistance and financial assistance to those in need.

Ontario Works:

- Recognizes individual responsibility and promotes autonomy through employment;
- Provides financial assistance to those who need it most;
- Fulfills their obligations to obtain and keep a job; and
- Effectively serves people who need help.

Participation agreement

- All Ontario Works applicants, their spouses and any dependent adults included in the benefit unit must complete and sign a PA prior to a determination of eligibility.
- The PA is an action-oriented plan that identifies the approved employment assistance activities the applicant or participant will undertake in order to prepare for, find and maintain employment.



- In some cases, applicants and participants may not be able to fully participate in employment assistance activities. The PA may identify restrictions on participation or, where any degree of participation is impracticable, a temporary deferral of participation requirements.
- In this circumstance, your case manager can provide information regarding the *Ontario Disability Support Program* (ODSP)
- Your participation agreement will be reviewed regularly and be adapted according to your needs and changes.
- Several employment assistance activities are available to you.

Examples of employment assistance activities | 5

- Job Search;
- Self-employment;
- Maintaining a job;
- Professional training;
- Preparation for employment;
- Obtaining your Ontario Secondary School Diploma;
- Learning, Earning and Parenting program (LEAP) – mandatory for parents between 16 and 17 years old, voluntary for parents between the ages of 18 and 25;
- Assessment of skills;
- Language enhancement;
- Community placement;
- Referral to different treatment and evaluation services;

Employment benefits and benefits for participation in employment assistance activities

- Allowance for appropriate work clothing and/or tools and materials;
- Financial assistance associated with a new full-time job;
- Employment Incentive Program;
- Financial assistance for transportation;
- Assistance for childcare expenses;
- Volunteer incentive;
- Some school fees;
- Obtaining additional certification such as first aid;
- Additional help for job searches;

Some of these benefits have maximums allocated, please discuss them with your case manager.

Furthermore...

- After obtaining your job, you may benefit from an income exemption as well as financial assistance related to childcare.
- If your income from employment, self-employment or other source of income is too high and you do not qualify for financial assistance, you may be eligible for additional health benefits.

Referral to various agencies

Employment Ontario

Contact North

TR Léger

Employment Services Centre

Entrepreneurship Centre

Groupe Convex

Moi j'apprends Centre

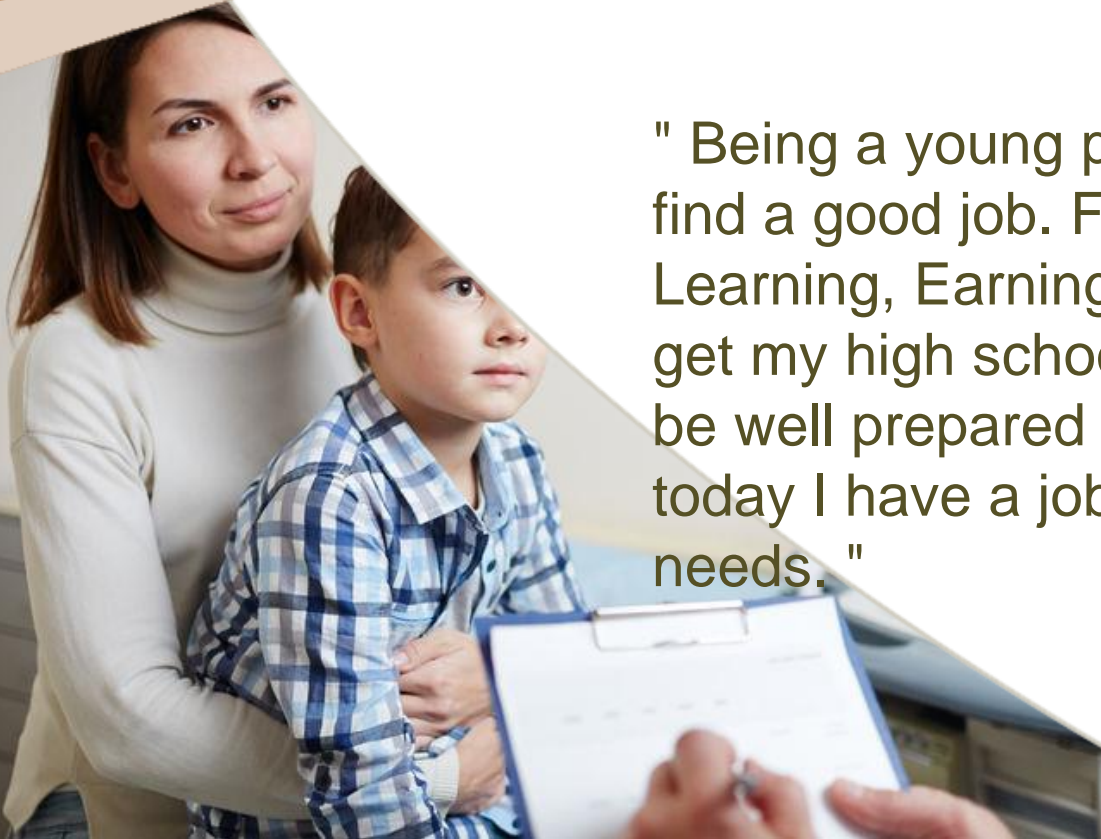
Eastern Ontario Education and Training Centre

Second Career Program

Testimonials

" I'm a single parent and I started working part-time. Ontario Works deducts a portion of my income and my child-care expenses, which has allowed me to maintain my employment and some program benefits."

" Being a young parent without a degree, it was difficult for me to find a good job. Fortunately, I had the chance to participate in the Learning, Earning and Parenting Program (LEAP), which helped to get my high school diploma, improve my skills as a parent and to be well prepared to find a job. I received the necessary support and today I have a job that I love and I can provide for my family's needs. "



Cont'd testimonials

" After leaving a family violence situation, I found myself vulnerable and without income. Ontario Works supported me in my efforts; I received emergency financial help and assistance in contacting the appropriate organizations. "

" After being affected by illness, I had to apply for Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP). Since the application process lasts for several months, Ontario Works helped me financially during my waiting period. "



DO NOT FORGET

It is very important to report any changes to your income, assets and living conditions.

We are here to help you, do not hesitate to contact us.



IVR & MyBenefits

- **Interactive Voice Response (IVR):** The IVR is an automated telephone line that provides active social assistance recipients with access to limited information about their case. This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- **MyBenefits:** MyBenefits gives people more choice and flexibility in how they get, manage, and report information regarding their Ontario Works file.

These two services allow you to declare your income.

Contactez-nous! – Contact Us!

Prescott 
Russell

ONTARIO AU TRAVAIL ONTARIO WORKS

Comtés unis de Prescott et Russell
United Counties of Prescott and Russell

Services sociaux-Siège social/Social Services-Head Office

59, rue Court St., C.P./P.O. Box 303

L'Orignal, ON K0B 1K0 - 613-675-4642 - 1 800-667-9825

LSS@prescott-russell.on.ca



www.prescott-russell.on.ca

2-860, rue Caron St.

C.P./P.O. Box 370

Rockland, ON K4K 1K5

613-446-2020 - 1 866-298-2228

RSS@prescott-russell.on.ca

Opportunités croissantes
Growing Opportunities



We can also refer you to other agencies and resources | 14

Valoris for Children and Adults of Prescott & Russell

Eastern Ontario Health Unit

Community services of Prescott & Russell

Canadian Mental Health Association

Victim's Services

Legal Clinic of Prescott & Russell

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HGH – Addictions and Mental Health Services

Maison Interlude House

Housing Services

Food Bank

Service Ontario

Centre Novas

Centre de santé communautaire de l'Estrie

MP's office

Crisis Team of HGH