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Targeted Wage Subsidy

If you are unemployed and having trouble finding a permanent job, the Targeted Wage Subsidy program can help. This program offers employers targeted wage subsidies to help them to hire you. This subsidy normally leads to permanent employment.

Eligibility Information

To be eligible, you must be unemployed and show that you need the support of a subsidy to get hired. As well, you must meet one of the following conditions:

- have a current Employment Insurance (EI) claim
- have had an EI claim that ended within the last three years
- have had an EI claim for maternity or parental benefits within the past five years, then remained out of the job market to care for a newborn or newly adopted child, and now want to re-enter the labour force

Applying for a Targeted Wage Subsidy by an Individual

Before you can apply for a Targeted Wage Subsidy, you must first meet with an employment assistance service provider. They will assign a case manager to you. The case manager will then see if you qualify for a subsidy and tell you about the various employment services you can access.

These services may include

- job market information
- employment needs assessment
- career planning
- employment counselling
- diagnostic assessment
- job search skills
- job finding clubs
- job placement services
- help making a return-to-work action plan
- case management
- follow-up support

If you and the case manager find that you need work experience to get a permanent job, this will be included in the employment assessment and return-to-work action plan. You can then apply to Employment Nova Scotia for a Targeted Wage Subsidy.

Please Note:

- Your application must be approved by Employment Nova Scotia before you can begin working with the employer.

- The date your fully completed application is received by Employment Nova Scotia will be considered the date that you have asked for help. This date determines whether you qualify within the timeframes outlined in the Eligibility Information section above. If an application is returned to you to have information clarified or added, it will not be considered fully completed until all of the information needed is received.
- Your employer will get financial help in the form of a subsidy to cover a portion of your wages. If you are a person with a disability, there may be additional financial help available to cover all or part of the costs related to any special needs.
- The longest an agreement with an employer can be is 52 weeks in a row (or up to 78 weeks if you are a person with a disability).

Applying to Hire an Employee through a Targeted Wage Subsidy

Employers wishing to apply for a Targeted Wage Subsidy should visit our website for up-to-date information on applying. Eligible employers include businesses, municipalities, band/tribal councils, public health and educational institutions, and community organizations.

To apply for funding, contact Employment Nova Scotia for information on registering for LaMPSS. LaMPSS, or Labour Market Program Support System, is a common system and set of business processes used to run labour market programs. Once registered, employers can submit applications online. Program guidelines are also available on the Employment Nova Scotia website at www.gov.ns.ca/employmentnovascotia/programs/default.asp. Click on the desired program to read the guidelines.

Targeted Wage Subsidy Information

For program-specific information, including a list of employment assistance service providers, visit www.gov.ns.ca/employmentnovascotia/programs/targeted-wage-subsidies.asp or call toll-free at 1 (877) 223-0888.

About Employment Nova Scotia

Employment Nova Scotia manages employment-related programming funded by the Canada–Nova Scotia Labour Market Development Agreement, the Canada–Nova Scotia Labour Market Agreement, and the Targeted Initiative for Older Workers.

