**Social Services in Canada**

Sponsors are advised to **research what social assistance or income assistance programs are available within their province**, what the average processing times are, and the specifics of how to apply.

**Sponsors should ensure that the newcomer(s) receive their first social assistance payment at the end of Month 12** so that they are able to cover their rent for Month 13, as well as pay for groceries and bills.

In **Newfoundland**, newcomer(s) are able to apply for income support from the Department of Advanced Education and Skills. **Website**: <http://www.aes.gov.nl.ca/income-support/application.html>

Newcomer(s) in **Prince Edward Island** are able to apply for the **Social Assistance Program** via telephone. **Website**: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/family-and-human-services/social-assistance-program>

In **Nova Scotia** the Department of Community Services is responsible for delivering the **Employment Support and Income Assistance Program**. Newcomer(s) in **Nova Scotia** can apply for the program via telephone. **Website**: <http://novascotia.ca/coms/employment/income_assistance/HowtoApply.html>

In **New Brunswick**, newcomer(s) are able to apply for the **Social Development Program**. Newcomer(s) are advised to contact their local Social Development Regional Office for more information on how to apply. **Website**: <http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/services/services_renderer.10295.Social_Assistance_Program.html#serviceDescription>

Newcomer(s) in **Ontario** are able to apply for **Ontario Works** at the start of Month 12, to ensure that they receive coverage at the end of Month 12. Newcomer(s) can apply for Ontario Works online, in-person, or by phone. Newcomer(s) in **Ontario** are advised to contact their local Ontario Works office to see what the best and quickest way to apply is for their municipality.

**Website**: <http://www.mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/ow/>

Newcomer(s) in **Manitoba** can apply for the **Employment and Income Assistance Program**. Before newcomer(s) are able to submit an application for the program, they may need to attend a pre-intake orientation. Newcomer(s) in **Manitoba** are advised to contact their local office for more information on how to apply for the **Employment and Income Assistance Program**. **Website**: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/misc/loc/winnipeg.html>

For newcomer(s) in **Saskatchewan**, the **Saskatchewan Assistance Program (SAP)** offers varying kinds of financial help. Newcomer(s) in **Saskatchewan** are advised to contact their local Social Welfare office for more information and how to apply. **Website**: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/family-and-social-support/find-a-social-services-office> .

In **Alberta**, the **Income Support Program** is administered by the Ministry of Human Services. Newcomer(s) can apply for social assistance online, and is followed by an in-person meeting with a case worker. Sponsors in **Alberta** are advised to contact their local Alberta Works Centre for more information. Website: <http://www.humanservices.alberta.ca/financial-support/689.html>

In **British Columbia**, the application for the **BC Employment and Assistance Program** can be submitted online, and is followed by an in-person or phone interview with a case worker. Sponsors in **British Columbia** are advised to contact their local Work BC Centre for more information. **Website**: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/income-assistance/apply-for-assistance>