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# Canada-Ontario Job Grant Update

December 2016

*Program Delivery Support Branch*

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Employment and Training Division  
Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development

# Follow Up Requirement Changes

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- Effective April 1, 2016, the ministry made efforts to reduce the number of post-exit COJG follow-ups required for both the employer and trainees.
- The number of follow-ups were reduced to 3 and 12 months. However, these changes were not immediately reflected in EOIS-CaMS and the service provider staff were required to follow a temporary workaround for follow-up data entry.
- In the CaMS release on Monday, November 21, the system was updated to reflect the 3 and 12 month post-exit follow up requirements as per the revised COJG guidelines.
- The service provider CaMS users were notified about this via an “EOIS System Notice” email on Friday November 18.

## Upcoming Guideline Changes (New Hire Funding)

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- **Effective Spring 2017, employers with 50 or fewer** employees who are training and hiring unemployed individuals are eligible for up to \$15,000 per trainee and are not required to make a minimum contribution to training costs for training funded through the grant.

### *Unemployed Individual*

- For the purposes of the COJG, the term unemployed refers to an individual who is hired by an employer and was unemployed prior to being hired. There is no restriction on the duration of time the individual was out of employment; however, validation of unemployed status is required.
- The Ministry is currently updating the COJG application form and systems to support the 100% funding for the trainees that are defined as unemployed individuals in the upcoming program guidelines. The changes will be communicated with the COJG service providers prior to the start of 2017-18 fiscal year.

# Upcoming Guideline Changes (continued)

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## **Textbooks, software and other training materials:**

- The COJG will support a maximum of \$500 per trainee for textbooks, software and other training materials required by the individual to complete skills training.
- For COJG applications that involve multiple trainees, the maximum \$500 for these supports cannot be combined to support larger equipment purchases.

## **Travel Costs:**

- Travel costs are supported up to a maximum \$500 per trainee, within the maximum allowable contribution per trainee.

## **Training Duration:**

- Training must not exceed one year in duration, i.e. training must be completed within 52 weeks of the training start date.

## Current Status

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- As of November 30<sup>th</sup> 2016, more than 13,600 applications have been approved since program inception.
- This represents more than 80,200 training opportunities for 57,882 new or current employees in Ontario.
- More than 7,200 employers are benefiting from the COJG.
- In coming weeks, the ministry will be informing service providers of the business process for the 2017- 2018 fiscal year for all Employment Ontario programs, including COJG.

# Current Status of Pilots

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- As of November 2016, the Call for Proposals (CFP) for the COJG: UpSkill pilot has received seven applications:
  - Four have been approved
  - Three were ineligible
- Applicants have been notified of the results.
- As of November 2016, the COJG: Customized Training pilot continues to receive applications on an ongoing basis.
  - Eight Customized Training applications have been received
  - Four of which have been approved for funding