Canada-BC Job Fund – Supports for Refugees

October 2016

Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training
Labour Market and Information Division
Canada-BC Job Fund Agreement

• Federal/provincial agreement signed in April 2014, expires 2020
• $65M per year
• Three streams of programming:
  1. Canada-BC Job Grant
  2. Employment Services and Supports
  3. Employer Sponsored Training
Employment Services & Supports Program

• Client-focused skills training and employment support services to participants who are unemployed and non-EI eligible.

• Service providers deliver services under six core service areas:
  1. Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships
  2. Entrepreneurial Skills Training
  3. Essential Skills Training
  4. Job Readiness Training
  5. Industry and Trades Training
  6. Skills Training for Youth
ESS programs focused on immigrant clients

• Immigrant clients able to work in Canada are eligible for all ESS programming
• The following ESS programs target immigrant clients:
  ➢ Immigrant Youth Employment (Greater Van area)
  ➢ Workplace Integration for Mature Immigrants (Metro Van)
  ➢ Immigrant Youth Retail Employment (North Van)
  ➢ Skills and Supports for Job Success (Coquitlam & Vancouver)
  ➢ Job Readiness and 21st Century Skills Initiative (Kelowna)
Canada-B.C. Job Grant Program

Overview

• Employer-driven, cost-sharing program that helps employers invest in training for their current or future employees

• Goal: increase participation of British Columbians in the labour force by helping them develop the skills they need to find and keep a job
Employer chooses participants and training
Employer contributes 1/3 of cost of training*
Up to $10,000 per person*
Training provided by a third-party training provider
Participant has a job at the end of training

* Under Unemployed stream, no contribution is required and funding is up to $15,000 per person
Eligible employers or organizations acting on behalf of employers can apply under one of four streams:

- Priority Sectors
- Underrepresented
- Unemployed
- Refugee Fund
### Canada-B.C. Job Grant Program

#### Differences between Streams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stream</th>
<th>Government Contribution</th>
<th>Job Readiness training</th>
<th>Job Specific training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Underrepresented/ Priority Sectors</td>
<td>2/3 government; 1/3 employer</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes – up to $10,000 grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>100% covered by government</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes – up to $15,000 grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugee Fund</td>
<td>Job Readiness – 100% covered by government; Job Specific - 2/3 covered by government</td>
<td>Yes – up to $5,000 grant</td>
<td>Yes – up to $5,000 grant</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Refugee Fund

- Up to $2M allocated under the CJG to this Fund
- Open to applications from organizations working with employers to:
  - Orient and train refugees for employment in their particular sector; and
  - Match refugees to employers and jobs; and
  - Deliver job-specific training in partnership with employers.
Canada-B.C. Job Grant

Refugee Fund – Grant Funding

• Each participant can receive up to $10,000 in training:
  ▪ Up to $5,000 for Job Readiness training
  ▪ Up to $5,000 from Job Specific training
  ▪ Employer must contribute 1/3 of Job Specific training costs

Above: The first refugee client graduates from a technology training program funded under the Canada-BC Job Grant Refugee Fund
Canada-B.C. Job Grant

Refugee Fund – Training Supports

**Job Readiness Training**

- Industry/sector specific workplace orientation
- Accelerated and specialized English language training
- Industry/sector specific skills assessments
- Work-related supports & resources
- Job entry skills
- Childcare
- Transportation

**Job Specific Training**

- Training in soft skills, essential skills, specialized or technical skills, or management or business skills
- Certifications and examinations
- Textbooks, training software, and other required materials
Example of Developing a Proposal under Refugee Fund

1. Identify an employer or employer association, or create an employer consortium
2. Partner with a local settlement agency or refugee sponsorship group
3. Identify work-ready refugee participants who are interested in the project
4. Develop and submit a CJG application
Canada-B.C. Job Grant

Refugee Fund – Application Process

1. Submit Application
2. Deliver Job Readiness Training
3. Submit Reimbursement Claim for Job Readiness Training
4. Deliver Job Specific Training
5. Submit Reimbursement Claim for Job Specific Training
Canada-B.C. Job Grant

Refugee Fund – Results to Date

- $879,200 in Government Contributions
- 89 Participants
- Trained in: Industrial Sewing, Welding, Machining, Wood Working, Specialized Manufacturing, Software Development
- 27 Currently Working
REFUGEE FUND

The Refugee Fund allows employers to meet their labour market needs while helping refugees gain skills and employment in British Columbia. Industry/sector associations, employer associations, and union and non-profit organizations working with refugees are eligible to apply.

This Refugee Fund, providing up to $1 million, will support these organizations to prepare refugees for employment in their particular sector, match refugees to employers and jobs, and deliver job-specific skills training in partnership with employers. The Refugee Fund supports two types of training: job readiness and job-specific skills training.

Job readiness can include:

- Industry/sector specific skills assessments,
- Accelerated and specialized English language training, or
- Industry/sector specific workplace orientation, work experience and other work-related supports.

The intent is not to duplicate existing resources available in the community, such as settlement services, but to complement these resources with a focus on employment.

Job-specific training must be delivered in partnership with employers and must start on or before March 31, 2017. Employers must contribute one-third of the cost of the job-specific skills training, with two-thirds of the cost covered by the CJG. The employer must provide a job to the participant at the end of training.

Out of the $10,000 maximum amount available for CJG training, a maximum of $5,000 is available for the job readiness portion of the training. Training must be completed within 52 weeks.

Organizations and their partner employers must meet Refugee Fund eligibility criteria.