



Career Connect provides individuals who qualify for regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits an opportunity to continue to receive those benefits while attending full-time post secondary studies within Canada for the duration of their claim.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

If you are **unemployed, attending full-time, post-secondary studies and meet all of the following criteria** you are eligible to apply for the program. You must:

- be legally authorized to work in Canada (Canadian citizen or permanent resident);
- be a Prince Edward Island resident;
- be in receipt of or eligible for a regular EI claim;
- be out of secondary school (high school) for a minimum of 12 months;
- have developed a plan with a case manager to return to full-time studies to increase your skills;
- be accepted to a full-time training program within Canada;
- have the financial resources to pay for all training costs including tuition, books, etc.

HOW DO I APPLY?

You must meet with a case manager and develop a Return to Work Action Plan. Your case manager will assist you through the application process.

To be approved we will need:

- **Completed** Career Connect application form
- **Return to Work Action Plan** prepared by your case manager (<http://skillspei.com/resources>)
- **Enrollment letter** from the post-secondary institution

WHEN IS MY APPLICATION DUE?

You should submit your complete application package to SkillsPEI **prior to the start date** of your training program.

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

Once you submit your completed application, SkillsPEI will review your application. A Program Officer will contact you within a few days to discuss your application. If you are eligible to participate in the Career Connect program **and** you qualify for an active EI claim you will enter into an agreement for the full academic year; however, **you will only receive benefits for the duration of your EI claim as determined by Service Canada.**

This information sheet is a general guide for applicants. Applications received by SkillsPEI will be assessed against additional program criteria to determine eligibility.

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

- You **must** apply for benefits through Service Canada;
- This program **will not** change the rate of your weekly benefits or extend the duration of your benefits.
- This program **will not** impact your George Coles Bursary, or other provincial bursaries.
- You will need a financial plan to cover costs if your benefits run out during your academic year;
- **If you qualify for EI under this program, this may have an impact on your PEI Student Loan.**
- If you qualify for a new EI claim during your school year, you **must** notify SkillsPEI immediately.
- **NO OTHER FINANCIAL SUPPORT WILL BE PROVIDED UNDER THE PROGRAM.**

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

You can visit our website at www.skillspei.com, call SkillsPEI's General Inquiries Line at 1-877-491-4766 or visit one of the following SkillsPEI offices:

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| Atlantic Technology Centre | 176 Great George St, Charlottetown | 902-368-6290 |
| Provincial Building | 548 Main St, Montague | 902-838-0674 |
| Future Tech West | 454 Main St, O'Leary | 902-859-8898 |
| Access PEI | 120 Heather Moyse Dr, Summerside | 902-438-4151 |

