

## Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), Employment Supports Ministry of Community and Social Services

ODSP Employment Supports helps people with disabilities who want to work or advance their career. It can also help people with disabilities who are at risk of losing their job because of their disability. You do not have to be receiving ODSP Income Supports to receive ODSP Employment Supports.

### Employment Supports can help you:

- Prepare for a job
- Find a job (including self employment)
- Keep you job
- Increase your income
- Advance your career

### How to Apply:

- Print off the application package (links below) OR request a package from your local ODSP office (see below)
- The application package contains these forms:
  - [Application for Employment Supports](#)
  - [Verification of Disability/Impairment](#)
- If you are already receiving ODSP income support or are registered as legally blind with Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB), you do not need to complete the Verification of Disability/Impairment form
- If you are not receiving ODSP income support, the Verification of Disability/Impairment form must be completed by an approved, health care professional who can describe your disability/impairment and explain how it impacts your ability to find and keep work
- You must sign the “Consent to Release Medical Information” section included in this form, before taking it to an approved healthcare professional
- You may not have to complete a Verification of Disability/Impairment form if you have a report completed by a Health Care Professional which describes your disability (e.g. A medical form to apply for an accessible parking permit, or a psychologist report confirming your disability)

## Local ODSP Offices:

### Kitchener/Waterloo

715 Fischer Hallman Rd., Unit 301

Kitchener, Ontario N2E 4E9

Phone: 519-886-4700 or Toll Free: 1-800-441-9820 TTY: 519-886-8304

Fax: 519-886-8997

### Cambridge

73 Water Street North,

Suite 400, 4th Floor

Cambridge, Ontario N1R 7L6

Phone: 519-623-1230 or Toll Free: 1-888-214-0738 TTY: 519-623-6593

Fax: 519-623-4752

### Guelph

1 Stone Road W., 1st Floor

Guelph, Ontario

N1G 4Y2

Phone: 519-822-7500 or Toll Free: 1-800-567-2953 TDD/TTY: (519) 822-1561

Fax: (519) 837-0789

## Eligibility for ODSP Employment supports:

- be at least 16 years old
- be an Ontario resident and legally entitled to work in Ontario
- have a disability/impairment that presents a substantial barrier to competitive employment
- be able to prepare for, obtain and maintain employment that is “competitive” (at least minimum wage)
- not eligible for other sources of back to work supports or related benefits e.g. through Canada Pension Plan, Ontario Works, Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) or insurance

## How the Supports and Services are provided:

- Employment supports are provided by service providers in your community
- You can choose a service provider and you will work directly with them to determine the supports and services you need
- Service providers in Waterloo Region: March of Dimes Canada, Lutherwood and The Job Centre
- Service providers in Guelph/Wellington/Dufferin: March of Dimes Canada, Lutherwood, Torchlight, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance and The Job Centre

## Did you know?

- In order to receive ODSP Employment Supports, there are Terms and Conditions that you will have to agree to. They are outlined in the **Welcome to ODSP Employment Supports** form  
[http://www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/mbs/ssb/forms/ssbforms.nsf/GetFileAttach/006-3188E~1/\\$File/ODSP\\_3188E.pdf](http://www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/mbs/ssb/forms/ssbforms.nsf/GetFileAttach/006-3188E~1/$File/ODSP_3188E.pdf)
- If you are receiving ODSP Income Support, there is help for the costs of looking for, starting or changing jobs
- Once you get a job, additional supports may be available to help you keep your job (such as job coaching)

## For more information:

[http://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/en/mcsc/programs/social/odsp/employment\\_support/index.aspx](http://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/en/mcsc/programs/social/odsp/employment_support/index.aspx)