

How To Apply

You've already heard how special savings accounts called Individual Development Accounts are helping people save for better opportunities. If you're interested in taking part in a national demonstration project that offers Individual Development Accounts for learning, returning to school, taking training or starting a small business, here's information on how to apply.

Space is limited! Don't wait! Find out if you're eligible and apply today!

Are You Eligible ?

Answer The Following Questions To Find Out:

1. Is your family income low?

This is a demonstration project for people with low incomes. To be eligible, your total family income this year and last year has to be at or lower than the cut-off (see below). These cut-offs are based on the size of your family and the cost of living in the area you live in. Please check the table carefully to see if your family income is at or below the cut-off for your location:

WHERE YOU LIVE	FAMILY SIZE					
	1 person	2 people	3 people	4 people	5 people	6 people
Toronto Montreal Vancouver Winnipeg Calgary	21,463	26,828	33,366	40,390	45,149	49,908
Halifax Waterloo Region	18,409	23,011	28,619	34,643	38,726	42,809
Fredericton	18,282	22,853	28,420	34,403	38,456	42,510
Grey & Bruce Counties, ON Digby & Annapolis Counties, NS	14,833	18,540	23,059	27,912	31,202	34,492

What do we mean by "family"?

By family, we mean everyone living in the same household who is related by blood or marriage (including common-law and same-sex couples). We're only counting income from adults over the age of 18.

What do we mean by income?

By income, we mean money from steady jobs, occasional work, EI benefits, social assistance, pensions, Workers' Compensation, etc... You'll be asked about all of these kinds of income on the application form and asked to give written proof.

Example:

Peter and Cynthia live together as a common-law couple and have 2 children. They live in Metro Toronto. Peter's 21-year-old brother also lives with them and helps with the mortgage and groceries. Last year, Peter's total income from all sources was \$20,000, Cynthia's was \$13,000 and Peter's brother made \$5,000. This year Peter's income was \$19,000, Cynthia's was \$10,000 and Peter's brother made \$9,000. Their total income last year was \$38,000 and this year is \$38,000 which is under the guideline of \$45,149 for a family of 5 living in Metro Toronto.

What do we mean by proof of income?

We need a document from you that shows what your income is as well as proof of the income of your spouse or partner (by marriage or common-law and including same-sex relationships). And we need proof of income for this year and for last year.

The best proof of income you can use for last year is the "Notice of Assessment." This is the form that the government sends you every year after you file your income taxes. If you don't have copies of your own or your spouse's Notice of Assessment, you can get copies by calling the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency at 1-800-959-8281.

Here's a list of other kinds of proof of income that you can use for your own and your spouse's income:

- T-4 slip, the form your employer gives you to file your taxes
- Record of Employment, the form you receive when you leave a job
- Pay-stubs or a payroll statement
- Receipts for self-employment income
- A signed letter from your employer that includes your salary or wage
- T5007 slip or RL-5 slip (in Quebec), the form that you use on your taxes if you have received any social assistance payments
- Benefits statements or stubs
- A copy of the letter you received to confirm your eligibility for a benefit payment
- A signed letter from your benefits administrator that includes the amount of your benefits

2. Are your family's savings low?

This is a demonstration project for people who don't already save much money. To be eligible, your family's savings have to be less than the cut-off. By savings we mean money in bank accounts, Registered Retirement Savings Plans, trust funds, etc.... ***If your combined savings are less than 10% of your family income then you may be eligible.***

3. Are your other assets under the guidelines?

This is a demonstration project for people who don't have other kinds of big assets like a valuable home. To be eligible, any property that you own - like houses or condominiums - has to be less than the cut-off for your area. These cut-offs are based on the average real estate values in your area.

4. Are you 21 to 65 years old ?

This is a demonstration project for working age adults. To be eligible, you have to be at least 21 years old but not older than 65 years old. If you're between the ages of 18 and 20, you can still qualify if you've been out of school for at least 2 years.

5. Are you out of school or only studying part time ?

This is a project to help adults go back to school or train who aren't already in college, university or training. We will only take applications from students if they are studying part time. By part time we mean less than a 60% course-load.

Full-time college and university students are not eligible.

The only exception is for people 21 years and older who are finishing high school as a full-time student.

6. Do you have a social insurance number ?

You'll need to have your social insurance number for your application to be processed. If you don't have a social insurance card, you can use any form or letter from the government if it has your name and social insurance number together. If you don't have a social insurance number, you can apply for one by calling your local Human Resources Development Canada office. The number is in the back of your local phone book, in the government section, under "social insurance number."

If You Answered "yes" To All Of These Questions You May Be Eligible!

To apply and for more information, contact the *learn\$ave* project in your area.

SPACE IS LIMITED - CALL NOW!