

Foreign Qualification Recognition Microloan Program

Overview



As a newcomer professional in Alberta, you may face barriers that prevent you from working in your field, despite having practised for years outside of Alberta. This includes high

costs associated with licensing and certification, such as fees for exams and education upgrading.

The Government of Alberta is committed to breaking down barriers to help you put your skills and training to work in Alberta and contribute to our economic recovery and future growth.

About the Program

The Foreign Qualification Recognition Microloan Program provides low-interest microloans to Alberta newcomers to help with expenses related to licensing and certification, including:

- training
- examinations
- textbooks and study materials
- skills upgrading
- licensing fees

This three-year pilot program is delivered in partnership with the Bredin Centre for Career Advancement and Servus Credit Union.

Eligibility

The microloan program is available to Alberta newcomers who require financing to pay for expenses related to professional licensing or certification. To be eligible for a microloan, applicants must:

- have the right to live and work in Canada
- be a resident of Alberta

- have professional-level education or training obtained outside Canada
- be seeking to work in an occupation that requires a license in Alberta
- be unemployed or underemployed
- have sufficient income or resources to make repayments on the microloan

Funding

The Foreign Qualification Recognition Microloan Program aims to provide a minimum of 450 microloans to newcomer professionals over the next three years, until November 2023.

The maximum amount available for each applicant is \$15,000. If applicants also have microloans from other programs, the total amount borrowed from all the programs together cannot be more than \$15,000. If applicants pay back their first microloan, they may be eligible for another through the program.

How to Apply

To learn more about the Foreign Qualification Recognition Microloan Program, please contact the Bredin Centre for Career Advancement:

- Telephone: 780-425-3370
- Email: microloans@bredin.ca

Team members with the Bredin Centre can:

- guide applicants through eligibility assessments
- help create plans to achieve professional licensure goals
- refer screened applicants to Servus Credit Union for microloan financing services
- provide guidance through the loan application process

Contact the Bredin Centre for Career Advancement to learn more.