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What is Unemployment?

Unemployment arises when an individual actively searching for work is unable to find work. High rates of unemployment can signal economic distress, while low rates of unemployment can indicate an overheated economy.

Unemployment often arises due to recessions, depressions, technological improvements, job outsourcing, and voluntarily leaving a job to find another job.







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Strategies to Become **Employed**

- Prepare a strong resume and cover letter. Personalize these documents for every job and company you apply for. Use keywords to ensure your resume moves past the Applicant Tracking System.
- Search for jobs online using keywords. Be selective in your search by focusing on desired jobs and companies.
- Keep your social media profiles, such as LinkedIn, active. Ensure your profiles include keywords related to jobs you are interested in. Depending on your role, you may also consider building a personal website to share your skills and work.















- Use your network. Networking can help you learn about unadvertised job openings. You may also earn a referral.
- Attend job fairs. Job fairs allow you to meet employers directly.
 Prepare by learning about the companies in advance. You may earn an interview on the spot.
- Research the company before attending interviews. The more you know about a company and the more aligned you are with the company's values, the more likely you are to succeed in the interview.











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 Follow up with potential employers. Send a thank you note, ask for feedback, and build relationships. Even if you are not offered a job, you can form a potential connection for the future.

Employment organizations in the GTA can guide you through these steps:

- ACCESS Employment (416) 921-1800 <u>https://accesemployment.ca/</u>
- Achev https://achev.ca/
- Job Skills <u>https://www.jobskills.org/</u>



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Alternative Income Sources

Aside from finding a job, there are many ways you can earn money to improve your financial security:

- **Job Alternatives** Pursue a role outside of your field or engage in part-time roles such as delivery services or ridesharing to earn income while searching for a job.
- **Starting a Business** Start your own business instead of searching for employment.
- Freelancing Advertise your services to potential clients across the globe. Leverage your skills, whether they be coding, writing, or marketing, to generate income.





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- Digital Products and Content Creation
 Create courses, YouTube videos,
 Apps, AI Tools, etc. to earn money.
- Investments Invest in Bonds, Stocks, Index Funds, Peer-to-Peer Lending
- Real Estate and Sharing Economy –
 Invest in Real Estate, Rent all or part of your property, etc.
- Creative and Licensing Try affiliate marketing, licensing music, advertising on your car, designing custom products, or selling stock photos







Government Support for Unemployed Individuals

The federal, provincial, and municipal governments assist individuals who need financial assistance. Some common supports include:

Ontario Works https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-works

 Provides financial assistance for food and housing, along with support for securing employment for eligible individuals.



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Employment Insurance (EI)

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https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-socialdevelopment/programs/ei.html

- Provides temporary financial assistance while looking for work or upgrading skills.
- EI also supports individuals who take time off due to illness, pregnancy, and caregiving.
- Eligibility restrictions apply.

Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-disability-support-program

• Offers financial assistance for living expenses such as food and rent, health benefits, and employment supports to find or keep a job.

Additional Social Assistance and Benefits Resources

- Government of Ontario https://www.ontario.ca/page/social- <u>assistance</u>
- Government of Canada https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits.html



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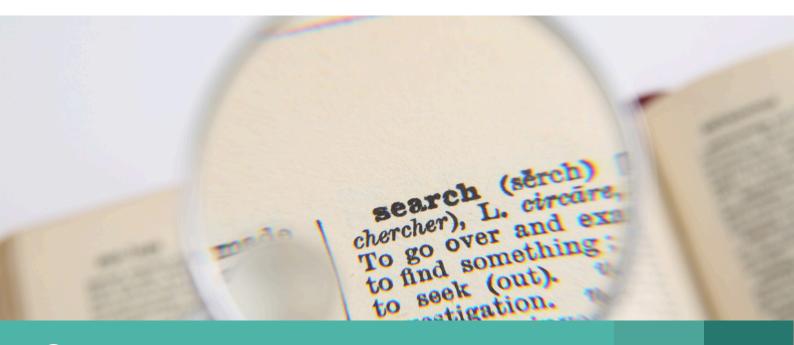
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