

**Targeted Wage Subsidies** is an employment program that helps individuals who are experiencing difficulty finding work, by providing temporary wage subsidies to assist employers to hire them. Normally, the subsidy will lead to permanent employment.

## Program Objective

**Targeted Wage Subsidies** help individuals who face barriers to employment by enhancing their skills and improving their employability, through the temporary wage subsidies provided to the employers that hire them.

## Who can apply?

To be eligible for participation in Targeted Wage Subsidies (TWS), you must be an unemployed individual (“Employment Insurance (EI) Client”) as defined in the Canada – BC Labour Market Development Agreement (LMDA). This means that you are an individual for whom:

- a. an unemployment benefit period has been established or has ended within the 36 months (3 years) prior to the date of requesting assistance; or
- b. a benefit period that included a maternity or parental claim has been established within the 60 months (5 years) prior to the date of requesting assistance, after which you remained out of the labour market in order to care for a newborn or newly adopted child and are now seeking to re-enter the labour force.

Other criteria may apply. For more information on which other criteria may apply for eligibility into this employment program, please contact Enquiry BC.

## Financial Benefits

The individual needs of the participant in relation to the work experience will be considered in determining the wage subsidy.

## How can I get more information?

You can get more information on Employment and Labour Market Services through your local Employment Assistance Service (EAS) Provider, or through **Enquiry BC**.

Hours of Operation for Enquiry BC are 7:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday.

Victoria:	<b>250 387-6121</b>	<i>Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD)</i>
Vancouver:	<b>604 660-2421</b>	Vancouver: <b>604 775-0303</b>
Elsewhere in BC:	<b>1 800 663-7867</b>	Elsewhere in BC: <b>1 800 661-8773</b>

EAS locations and Employment and Labour Market Services information is also available by internet:

Employment and Labour Market Services website:  
[www.labourmarketservices.gov.bc.ca](http://www.labourmarketservices.gov.bc.ca)