

A mosaic background composed of various colored tiles in shades of blue, green, yellow, and orange. A solid green horizontal banner is overlaid on the left side of the image.

BC JobConnect

Connecting Newcomers to Employers

IEC-BC & AMSSA Webinar – BC JobConnect – Giving Newcomers a Career Head Start - 20th September 2017: Questions

1. Do you have promotional material that we can distribute to our clients? How can we access it?

We have rack cards available for download and print on our website at <https://iecbc.ca/our-work/programs/bc-jobconnect/>

If you would like hard copies mailed to you, please email Fionan Griffin at bcjobconnect@iecbc.ca.

2. Will it be possible to do a live short demo from employer perspective?

There is a demo of an employer's perspective available on our website. Just a note that this webinar was done in February 2017 so is from the previous BC Refugees JobConnect site; however, only minor changes have been made to the employer side so this should provide you with a good overview of how it works for an employer. To view the webinar, click below.

http://iecbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/BC-Refugees-JobConnect-Connecting-Employers-to-New-Talent-Pool.mp4?_2

3. Will an EPBC client have access to this program or is it considered duplication?

Yes, an EPBC client will have access to the program as long as they fulfill the eligibility criteria.

4. Is there any requirement for employer? what is the selection process?

Employers are required to provide us with certain information before they can get access to the tool. We require this information so that we can verify that they are legitimate employers in BC.

5. Could you please share the top reasons your employers have given for why they hire immigrant talent? I could use this info to inform employers in my network and market your services for them.

1. Skills and labour shortages - employers have positions to fill
2. A balance of labour shortages and a desire to support the integration of newcomers.
6. For immigrants who landed more than 5 years ago, but recently came back to live in Canada from overseas, can they have access to these programs for newcomers?

The general rule of thumb for eligibility is that the candidate has had their permanent residence for five years or less.

7. Are there specific job postings on the website? Or do employers directly connect to candidates who are qualified?

We don't have a "job board" at this moment. It's something that we are considering for the future. Employers find candidates who they believe would be a good fit for their organization.

8. Can we watch this webinar in the future?

Yes, the webinar has been posted on the [webinars](#) section of our website.

9. Can you please go over who is eligible and the FAST program?

You are eligible for FAST BC if you

- are not currently a resident or citizen of Canada
- were selected to become a permanent resident and have received either of the following
 - an invitation letter/Planning for Canada brochure from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, or
 - a medical notification letter, or
 - a visa pick-up notification letter, or
 - a visa
- are a convention refugee or protected person who has been selected for resettlement in Canada by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
- are able to communicate effectively at a Canadian workplace skill level
- have two or more years of experience in the targeted trade or related occupation

FAST is a set of free online services and resources to help pre-arrival skilled immigrants prepare for the Canadian workplace, and to connect employers with experienced workers. More information on the program can be found at www.fastbc.org

10. How many job seekers registered for your site?

As of 20th Sept 2017, we have 373 registered job seekers.

11. One of the requirements to get service for BC JobConnect is to be in the IEC-BC's FAST program. How to join the FAST program?

You do not need to be a registered with FAST to be eligible for BC JobConnect. BC JobConnect is

simply an extra resource for FAST candidates to assist them in finding employment in Canada.

12. How much cooperation do you see from service providers who have job seeking newcomer clients? Or what's your ideal cooperation like?

The support of service providers has been essential to the progress of BC JobConnect. They are a primary source of candidate referrals and have been invaluable in promoting the talent portal to employers in their respective areas. Service providers are a main point of contact for us when trying to spread the word about potential job opportunities for their clients. We will continue to work with service providers and build on these relationships. IEC-BC built BC JobConnect for the community and we're hoping that the community will take a level of ownership of the tool realizing its potential to connect their clients with employment.

13. What is the average length of time between registering on the site and getting employment?

There is no set answer to this. A candidate who registers with the tool may find employment within a few days but another client may not find employment for a longer period. The time is dependent on a range of factors, including the English language ability, skills and experience of the candidate and the type of job he/she is seeking e.g. is it a high demand occupation? and the employers registered on the portal.

14. I am curious as how much candidate's info an employer will see during the initial search?

The employer will see brief essential information only including English language level, education and work experience. Any information that could potentially be used to discriminate against a candidate has been hidden from an employer. Any field where there is a symbol with an eye crossed out means that the field is hidden from an employer. See example below:



The image shows a form field for 'Date of Birth'. The label 'Date of Birth' is on the left, followed by a red eye icon with a diagonal slash through it, indicating that the field is hidden from employers. The input box contains the date '1984-06-21'.

15. Will you be able to share the success rates?

Absolutely. We're happy to share any success stories and stats from the tool.

16. What are the occupations that employers are mostly seeking to hire? Can you give us some examples of companies that are already registered as employers on your site?

There are a wide range of position that employers are looking to fill; however, below is the most recent snapshot:

- Major Industries of Companies within BC JobConnect
 - 18% - Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services
 - 13% - Manufacturing
 - 13% - Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting
 - 11% - Accommodation and Food Services
 - 7% - Retail Trade
 - 6% - Construction

The remaining 32% is split relatively evenly among other industry sectors

17. Could you give us some sense of percentage breakdown of employers by region?

- 20% - Vancouver
- 11% - Abbotsford
- 9% - Surrey
- 9% - Burnaby
- 7% - Delta
- 5% - North Vancouver

The remaining 39% is comprised of many other cities including Chilliwack, Coquitlam, Maple Ridge, Mission, Victoria and a host of other locations in BC.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule a BC JobConnect presentation, please contact Fionan Griffin at:

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