



BEGIN

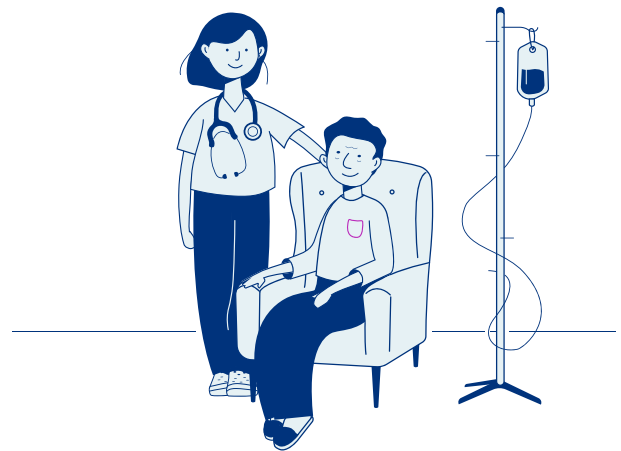
Employer Toolkit

Bridging Educational Grant in Nursing

The Registered Practical Nurses Association of Ontario (WeRPN) is the voice of Ontario's 60,000+ Registered Practical Nurses. Since the organization was founded in 1958, WeRPN has championed the critical role of RPNs by unifying their members, listening to their needs and advocating on their behalf with government, community stakeholders and the general public.

The Bridging Educational Grant in Nursing (BEGIN) program was created by WeRPN in partnership with the Ontario Government. As part of a commitment to recruit nurses to the Long-Term Care (LTC) and Home and Community Care (HCC) sectors, BEGIN helps Personal Support Workers (PSWs) and Registered Practical Nurses (RPNs) explore new professional pathways and bridge to RPN and RN roles.

Eligible participants enrolled in an accredited PSW-RPN, RPN-RN, or PSW-RN program can access BEGIN grants to reimburse their tuition and mandatory ancillary fees¹. Participants in the program will commit to a year of employment in either the LTC or HCC sector in Ontario for every year or portion of a year that they receive funding for their education (up to three years) through a Return of Service Agreement. Upon graduation from their programs, participants will make a positive impact on our provincial healthcare system.



¹ Up to a yearly maximum amount

The BEGIN Program is a Partnership Between

BEGIN Tuition Grants

The Bridging Educational Grant in Nursing (BEGIN) program provides tuition reimbursement grants to eligible participants enrolled in accredited PSW-RPN, RPN-RN, and PSW-RN programs, reducing the financial barriers for them to expand their nursing careers and invest in their futures. PSWs and RPNs may enroll in an eligible nursing program on a full-time or part-time basis, providing them with the flexibility to continue their employment.

BEGIN supports Ontario's LTC and HCC sectors

PSWs and RPNs who have received BEGIN tuition reimbursement grants commit to working in Ontario's LTC or HCC sectors after their program is complete. Upon graduation, BEGIN participants will fulfill a contractual employment commitment (Return of Service), working one year for every year they've received funding. New graduates are provided with resources and education to support their transition to practice.

How BEGIN Benefits Your Workplace

- Foster career growth and educational development
- Expand your team's knowledge and skills
- Access to a dedicated pool of candidates committed to working in your sector
- Support recruitment and retention efforts

How Can You Hire Through BEGIN?

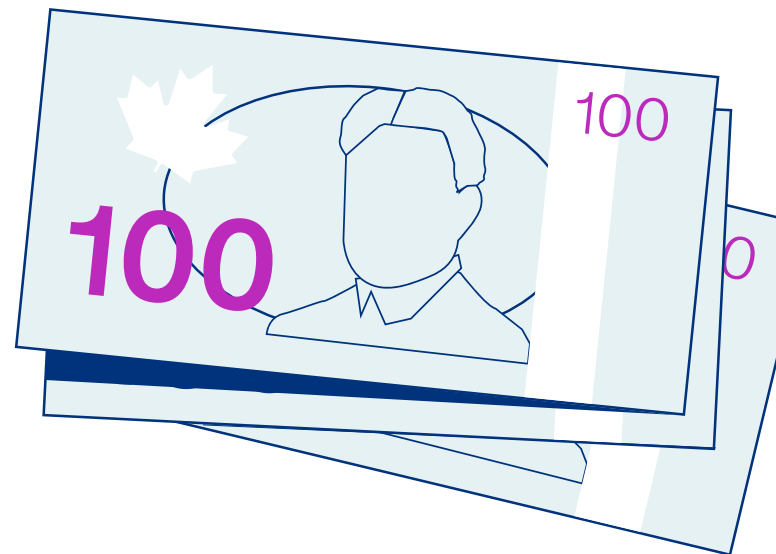
Visit begin.werpn.com/employers, to create a free account, and start posting your job openings to the BEGIN job board.

Your job openings will be shared directly with candidates who have committed to finding employment in LTC or HCC upon graduation.

The BEGIN job portal is only open to employers, not staffing agencies.

Have further questions? Contact:

info@begin.werpn.com



How BEGIN Supports PSWs and RPNs Looking to Bridge

Provides funding to help PSWs and RPNs expand their careers

BEGIN provides Ontario PSWs and RPNs with tuition reimbursement grants to explore new pathways in nursing and expand their careers. Students enrolled in PSW-RPN, RPN-RN, or PSW-RN programs may be eligible to receive funding they don't need to pay back, reducing financial barriers for students to invest in their futures.

Eligible PSW-RPN students

Up to \$6,000 per year in tuition and mandatory ancillary fee reimbursements (maximum of \$15,000)

Eligible RPN-RN/PSW-RN students

Up to \$10,000 per year in tuition and mandatory ancillary fee reimbursements (maximum of \$30,000)

Once enrolled, some applicants may also qualify for additional funding of up to \$5,000 per year to help with costs such as tutoring, travel, and caring for dependents based on financial need.

Exam preparation resources

Participants also benefit from additional resources, and are paired with a dedicated case manager to support them on their program journey. All BEGIN students will have access to no-cost online NCLEX and REx-PN exam preparation resources.

Secure career opportunities

PSWs and RPNs who receive BEGIN funding commit to post-graduation employment in Ontario's LTC or HCC sectors. Upon graduation, participants will work one year for every year they've received BEGIN funding (up to three years). BEGIN helps connect graduates with meaningful employment opportunities in a rewarding and in-demand field.

Job search support

To aid with their job search, BEGIN participants will have access to a new graduate workshop that includes resume writing tips and interviewing skills, as well as a dedicated job board with career opportunities in Ontario's LTC and HCC sectors.

Helpful Links and Resources

Want to know more? Visit:

begin.werpn.com/employers

Reach out at:

info@begin.werpn.com