COVID-19: Resources for Newcomers

The following resources have been selected to help keep immigrants and newcomers well-informed during COVID-19. While these resources are considered to be suitable sources of information, we ask that you make your own decisions about the information retrieved due to the changing nature of internet content. In some cases, providing the links does not imply endorsement by York Region.

Resources for newcomers:

- The federal and provincial governments have information and resources available to support newcomers and provide ongoing updates regarding COVID-19 and its impact on services to immigrants
- COVID-19 Information Sheet developed by the Ontario Ministry of Health and is available in multiple languages
- The Refugee Sponsorship Training Program’s list of Multi-lingual COVID-19 Resources for newcomers and sponsors
- A summary of financial benefits available under Canada’s COVID-19 Economic Response Plan is available in English, Français (French), እማርኛ (Amharic), تايلو (Arabic), հայերեն (Armenian), هزاره (Dari), سومالی (Soomaali), Español (Spanish) and ትግርኛ (Tigrinya)
- For updates on how COVID-19 is affecting immigration, refugees, citizenship and passport services, please visit the Government of Canada website

Live and work in Canada:

- There are work and volunteer opportunities for internationally-educated health care professionals. Visit the Government of Ontario’s Health Care Workforce Matching Portal to learn more about how you can assist with provincial efforts to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19
- For information and instructions on how to apply for a Social Insurance Number (SIN) online, visit the Employment and Social Development Canada guide. Some newcomers may not have a SIN card on arrival and this may create a barrier to accessing services and some financial supports for COVID-19
- Updates on visas and other immigration applications are provided on the Government of Canada’s Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) website
- Guidance for employers of temporary foreign workers regarding COVID-19 is provided by Employment and Social Development Canada
Health information:

- The Ontario Ministry of Health has expanded health care coverage for patients without the Ontario Health Insurance Plan during COVID-19. Visit the Health Network for Uninsured Clients webpage for more details

Accessible formats or communications supports available on request.
1-877-464-9675 ext. 74020
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Visit york.ca/covid19 for more information about COVID-19.

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