

YOUTH PROGRAMS

This section contains information about programs and services for unemployed youth. Check with the service provider for pre-requisites (some are for individuals up to age 24 and others up to age 30) and whether a training allowance is provided (as is the case for those eligible to receive funding from the federal government).

Ability Society

#600, 906 – 8 Ave. SW, Calgary, AB T2P 1H9

Ph: 403-262-9445

Fax: 403-262-4539

Email: info@abilitysociety.org

www.abilitysociety.org

EmployAbility

Individuals facing barriers to employment participate in a program that enables them to enhance their employability skills. Skills and experience are developed that participants need to succeed in today's labour market. The first part consists of workshops, coaching and mentoring through which participants acquire basic employability skills, work orientation and individual support. During the second part, participants gain practical work experience based on the skills and interests identified in their employment plan with the expectation of employment.

EmployAbility – Group Based Skills

This 16-week program is a series of workshops with an emphasis on life skills and basic business skills for those participants not yet employment-ready. The focus will be on learning new skills that will help engage their interest, thereby helping them to enhance their personal development and value what strengths and insights they have to offer. An opportunity to build life skills and through interaction their confidence, self-esteem and decision-making skills increase.

BGS Enterprises

Northland Bldg., #100, 910 – 7 Ave. SW, Calgary, AB T2P 3N8

www.bgsenterprises.com

Youth Ventures

Ph: 403-234-9119

Fax: 403-264-0189

Email:

yvcalgary@bgsenterprises.com

Assessments are provided to determine the eligibility of youth ages 15-30 years who wish to participate in Skills Link Programs, which fall under the Youth Employment Strategy and are funded by Service Canada. Skills Link Programs assist youth facing barriers to employment and/or education to develop a broad range of skills, knowledge and work experience they need in order to successfully participate in the job market.

- Assessment/Case Managers at Youth Ventures help youth assess their needs and develop a personalized Action Plan by choosing a series of activities from available programs and services.
 - These activities can be tailored to meet individual employment and career goals. The desired outcome is that the youth will follow through with their Action Plan in order to find employment and/or return to school.
 - One-on-one assessment is provided to clearly identify participant's needs and goals to develop an individualized Action Plan that will set out realistic goals and timelines for referrals, services and resources.
 - Case management is provided for up to three years as participants work through the steps that were outlined in their Action Plan.
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Bow Valley College

322 – 6 Ave. SE, Calgary, AB T2G 4S6

www.bowvalleycollege.ca

Bridge Program

Contact: Diane Hardy

Ph: 403-410-3409

Full-time for 16 weeks

Mon-Thur 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

This program is for ESL learners between the ages of 18 and 25 years who have not completed high school because of interrupted education. Small group instruction is offered that is age appropriate and develops the study and life skills necessary for success. The program supports learners to transition to further education. It is open to LINC eligible learners.

Connexion Carrieré

Contact: Kasey Russnak

Ph: 403-410-3195

Provides Francophone and/or Anglophone post-secondary graduate youth aged 15-30 years with a career-related work experience in order to acquire advanced skills in their chosen field of study.

Options: Young Adults Looking to Learn

Contacts:

Carolyn Reicher, Learning
Facilitator, Literacy

Specialist

Ph: 403-410-1502

Email: cj.reicher@shaw.ca

Audrey Gardner,

Foundational Learning Centre

Ph: 403-383-2721

Email:

agardner@bowvalleycollege.ca

Objectives are to:

- Explore the feasibility of a short term, free education and career development course for at-risk young adult learners
- Build and strengthen relationships between BVC and community agencies to improve accessibility to learning opportunities for barriered learners
- Pilot curriculum for the potential course
- Increase learners' knowledge of options in lifelong learning, adult education and employment
- Build capacity in partner agencies through increased knowledge of adult learning principles, literacy and essential skills

Intended Outcomes and Impacts:

- Through the direct involvement of participating community agencies a diverse curriculum will be developed based on the nine Essential Skills (reading text, document use, writing, numeracy, oral communication, thinking skills, working with others, computer use and continuous learning)
- Community agencies will have increased knowledge of adult education, adult learning principles, literacy, essential skills and a learner-centered approach
- Learners will have increased self-confidence and improved self-perception as adult learner, greater knowledge of adult education and career options, and strengthened skills at accessing information and resources for learning and career development

Funded by Telus.

Youth in Transition

Contact: Diane Hardy

Ph: 403-410-3409

Full-time for 16 weeks

Mon-Thur 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

This program is for learners between the ages of 18 and 24 years with 10 years or more of formal education who must be LINC eligible and have a referral from ILVARC. Classes are available at CLB Levels 3-6.

Boys and Girls Clubs of Calgary

731 – 13 Ave. NE, Calgary, AB T2E 1C8

www.bgcc.ab.ca

Maestro

Contact: Sarah Kemmers

Ph: 403-717-2616

Fax: 403-276-9988

This project offers three different interventions to youth aged 15 – 30 years with barriers to employment. They are able to take part in one or a combination of all three interventions based on their individual needs.

- The Group Based Employability Skills intervention provides youth with life and employability skills workshops that will develop skills that are considered necessary for success in the workplace or in a school environment.
- The Employability Skills through Work Experience intervention consists of a combination of employability skills workshops and a work experience, with the majority of the time dedicated to the work experience.
- The Work Experience intervention provides youth with practical on-the-job experience to develop their occupational skills.

Qualifications to attend program:

- Canadian Citizen, Permanent Resident, or person upon whom refugee status has been conferred
- Unemployed and not registered in school
- Not currently receiving EI
- Has not had an EI claim in the last three years (five years for maternity or paternity claims)

Calgary Catholic Immigration Society (CCIS)

5th Flr., 1111 – 11 Ave. SW, Calgary, AB T2R 0G5

Ph: 403-262-2006

Fax: 403-262-2033

www.ccis-calgary.ab.ca

Immigrant Youth Outreach Project

Calgary Achievement Centre for Youth (CACY)

#100A, 315 - 10 Ave. SE

Age group: 15-24 years

Ph: 403-268-8131

Email: iyp3@ccis-calgary.ab.ca

Website: <http://cacy.org>

Located at the Calgary Achievement Centre of Youth (CACY), this program provides education and employment support to immigrant youth ages 15-24. Education support includes math summer program, Saturday self-study tutoring, in-school and out-of-school support, laptop and graphing calculator lending program and various music and art projects. Employment support is delivered on an individual and group basis and includes resumé writing, interview preparation, job search support and career planning.

Jumpstart to Success

Ph: 403-290-5133

Fax: 403-264-4858

Email: youth2@ccis-calgary.ab.ca

Call for intake dates

This program is available for immigrant youth ages 15-30 years that have not received EI within the last three years (five years for maternity or paternity claims) and are facing barriers to employment. An eight-week group-based Employability Skills workshop is offered covering career planning, budgeting, team work, resume writing and job search techniques. A twelve-week Employability Skills workshop is also offered covering enhanced resume and cover letter writing, the Canadian work place environment, interview and job search skills. Participants will also be provided with a twelve-week supported work experience placement.

Calgary Construction Association – Youth Employment Program

#2725 - 12 Str. NE, Calgary, AB T2E 7J2

www.yepcca.cc

Youth Employment Program

Contact: Rae-Lynn Peariso,
Youth Employment
Coordinator
Ph: 403-262-4898
Fax: 403-291-9770
E Mail: yep@cca.cc
Continuous Intake

A three-week work experience for youth is provided in the construction industry. The expected result will be that the youth will have the opportunity to evaluate and determine the suitability of a construction-related career with a career path and have a potential job with the employer. It will give the employer the chance to evaluate the youth before offering a job. The contract coordinator will review potential participants resumé and their commitment and interest in the construction industry. The coordinator will arrange a three-week paid work experience with a suitable employer for the youth. The construction industry's goal is to place a minimum of 50 youth per year in work experiences. This program is open to youth ages 16 to 24, who are no longer in school, who are Income Support or EI Clients or are unemployed or marginally employed.

Calgary Immigrant Educational Society (CIES)

1723 – 40 St. SE, Calgary, AB T2A 7Y3

www.immigrant-education.ca

Free Internet & Employment Services for Youth

(Funded by TELUS Community Board)
Contact: Noureddine Bouissoukrane, Program Manager
Ph: 403-235-3666
Fax: 403-272-7455
Email: employment@immigrant-education.ca
Ongoing service.
No cost to participants.

The following services are offered for youth between 16 and 28 years:

- Information about the labour market
- Personal assistance with resume writing, job search and interview skills
- Assistance with job applications
- Networking opportunities
- Life skills development
- Internet access for on-line job search and academic project

Calgary Immigrant Women's Association (CIWA) – Youth Program

#200, 138 - 4 Ave. SE, Calgary, AB T2G 4Z6

Ph: 403-263-4414

Fax: 403-264-2914

www.ciwa-online.com

Guide to Success

Individual Counseling for immigrant Youth – see Counseling Support Services

Youth Program

Contact: Didem Erman,
Program Coordinator
Ph: 403-263-4414 ext 147
Email: dideme@ciwaonline.com

This program addresses the needs and concerns of culturally diverse young girls and women between the ages of 10-19. Individual support and counseling are available as well as the following:

- **Girls Culture Club** is located in several high schools throughout the city and run during lunch break or after school. It is a fun and safe place for girls to explore diversity, its challenges and positive qualities, while dealing with issues faced by teenage girls balancing their cultures and the expectations of Canadian society. Activities, fieldtrips, and guest speakers are coordinated throughout the year.

Registration fee: \$40.00 for the whole summer.
Mon-Thurs 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

- **Youth Standing Committee** provides leadership opportunities and training to girls who would like to develop their organizational and leadership skills. Different community projects are chosen and coordinated by the committee or young girls throughout the year.
- **Youth Cultural Summer Program** is a summer camp for girls ages 10-17 years who participate in exciting indoor and outdoor activities and attend several field trips. Camp activities focus on enhancing self-esteem, promoting emotional and physical health, as well as goal setting and potential fulfillment. Contact the Program Coordinator for assistance with fees.

Calgary Immigrant Women's Association (CIWA) – Links to Success – Skills Enhancement and Internships for Young Immigrant Mothers (ages 15-30 years) – [see Immigrant Training and Employment Programs and Services](#)

Calgary Learning Centre

3939 – 20 St. SW, Calgary, AB T2T 4Z9

P.O.W.E.R. for Youth

Contact: Mary Cole

Ph: 403-686-9300

The Literacy and Youth at Risk program provides the following for youth:

- Screening
- Assessment
- Strategy tutoring
- Self advocacy coaching
- Assistive technology training
- Transition planning (to education or to work)
- Connection to other resources, services and agencies
- Follow-up consultation

Workshops and presentations are also offered for agencies working with youth at risk.

CAREERS: The Next Generation

5921 – 3 St. SE, Calgary, AB T2H 1K3

Ph: 403-290-0977

www.nextgen.org

Contact: Steve Carlyle, Team Lead

Ph: 403-200-8119

Email: careers@nextgen.org

This is an industry-driven private/public partnership dedicated to the career development of Alberta's youth. It is a catalyst bringing together industry, educators, government, communities, and students to meet the inter-dependent needs of youth employability and skilled labour shortages. It is a proven entity with a solid track record of strong performance and impressive results.

This partnership invests in the workplace of the future by:

- Helping students make the link between their classroom education and their future workplace careers.
- Enabling students to explore career options through workplace internships.
- Supporting career education by helping students understand the real world of work.
- Promoting student awareness in specific fields where real opportunities exist for future jobs.

Pathways have included trades, technologies and health services. As a result, students have an increasingly diverse range of careers they can explore and are entering the post-secondary world and the workforce poised and motivated for accomplishment. Students will find careers that are fulfilling, employers will have employees with the right skills, educators will be linked with employers and communities across our province will grow and flourish.

Centre for Newcomers

#1010, 999 – 36 St. NE, Calgary, AB T2A 7X6

www.centrefornewcomers.ca

Stepping Out Program

Contact: Paras Persad

Ph: 403-648-2219

Fax: 403-648-2218

This program's purpose is to prevent and reduce criminal gang activity amongst immigrant youths ages 17-27. Through a community-based wrap-around approach, it focuses on decreasing risk factors for Youths most at risk of gang involvement. The program takes a three-pronged approach that encompasses prevention, intervention and suppression activities.

It provides:

- One-on-one coaching and mentoring.
- Tools, knowledge and support to make informed choices.
- Connections to various types of community resources.
- Opportunities to gain Leadership Training and Experience.
- Culturally sensitive and responsive services.

All Clients are assessed by professionally trained staff who assist them with appropriate support to exit gang life and change high-risk behaviors.

Youth Possibilities Program

Contact: Debbie

Ph: 403-569-3333

Email:

d.mohamed@centrefornewcomers.ca

This is a 12-week program designed to assist Youth with essential life skills and employability skills. It is especially created for newcomers to Calgary and, in general, Canada, by aiming to prepare Youth to successfully integrate and comfortably adapt into the Calgary community and wider Canadian society. A crucial component strongly depends on the ability to gain Canadian work experience and further employment.

The program offers:

- Life Skills Workshops:
 - Social and personal management
 - Information management and leadership skills
- Employability Skills Workshops:
 - Team work (includes outdoor challenge and team building activity)
 - Self improvement
 - Career exploration and job participation
- Work Experience:
 - Personalized support is provided in finding a work experience placement in accordance with personal career goals
 - Participants will be paid during the work experience for 10 weeks after the training is completed

Client qualifications:

- Canadian Citizen, Permanent Resident or person upon whom refugee status has been conferred
- Unemployed and not registered in school
- Not currently receiving Employment Insurance (EI)
- Has not had an EI claim in the last three years (five years for maternity or paternity claims)

Immigrant Services Calgary

#1200, 910 – 7 Ave. SW, Calgary, AB T2P 3N8

www.immigrantservicescalgary.ca

Youth Inclusive Neighborhoods Project

Contact: Youth Inclusive
Neighborhoods Project
Coordinator

Ph: 403-265-6093

Fax: 403-265-1604

Email:

mosaic@immigrantservicescalgary.ca

This project reaches out to immigrant and refugee youth who are struggling with social isolation and peer pressure. Youth participate in skill building workshops, fun activities and lead community engagement projects. They have the opportunity to work with mentors while parents take part in monthly workshops.

Youth Volunteer Program (YVP)

Contact: Kate Salimi

Ph: 403-538-8333

Email:

kates@immigrantservicescalgary.ca

This program provides opportunities for immigrant youth between the ages of 14 and 20 years to get involved in the community through volunteerism. It is designed to help immigrant youth discover the difference they can make in Canadian society through civic engagement. Participants gain experience in the Canadian workplace, participate in development opportunities, learn about the diverse culture in Canada, meet new friends and have fun through meaningful volunteer placements as well as a variety of social, recreational and team building activities.

McBride Career Group Inc.

#400, 602 – 12 Ave. SW, Calgary, AB T2R 1J3

www.mcbridecareergroup.com

Services to Youth Okotoks and High River

Okotoks Career and Employment Centre

Bay 3, 87 Elizabeth St.

Okotoks, AB T1S 2A2

Ph: 403-995-4377

Fax: 403-995-3616

Email:

okotoks@mcbridecareergroup.com

These services will assist young Albertans aged 16-24 years, who are unemployed or underemployed, have left school early, or have not continued on to post-secondary education. It will also include youth still in school who want help with preparing for a career. Services are provided for youth to encourage and support youth in making more informed career, employment and training choices.

High River Career and Employment Centre

#6, 28 – 12 Ave. SE

High River, AB T1V 1T2

Ph: 403-601-2660

Fax: 403-601-2627

Email:

highriver@mcbridecareergroup.com

Contact: Amber Chapman

Continuous Intake

Momentum

#16, 2936 Radcliff Dr SE, Calgary, AB T2A 6M8

www.momentum.org

Youth Fair Gains Program

Contact: Fatima Esmail,
Financial Literacy Facilitator

Ph: 403-204-2665

Fax: 403-235-4646

Email:

fatimae@momentum.org

Website:

www.momentumforyouth.org

Ongoing Intakes

This is a matched savings program for low-income youth between 16 and 21 years old. Over the course of the 12-month financial literacy program, participants will save between \$15 and \$50 of their own money every month, with Momentum matching their contribution 3:1. With a potential total savings of \$2400, participants can use the money to purchase an asset, defined as either education for themselves, education for a child, starting or expanding a business or tools for work.

Motive-Action Training Foundation – Pre-Apprenticeship Mechanics – see [Occupational Skills Training](#)

Prospect Human Services Society - Airdrie and Cochrane Employment Services

Airdrie: Bay 9, 400 Main St. N, Airdrie, AB T4B 2B6

Cochrane: #5, 118 - 1 Ave. W, PO Box 805, Cochrane, AB T4C 1A9

www.prospectnow.ca

Services to Youth

Airdrie: Ph: 403-948-9711

Cochrane: Ph: 403-709-0010

Continuous Intake

This is an employment/counselling service for youth aged 16-24 in the Airdrie and Cochrane area. Eligible youth will work collaboratively with a Counselor to develop a plan to help them connect with a suitable career path, an individual learning plan, a job search and career plan, or an employment plan. The Counselor will be able to use the resources of Rockyview Employment Centre, as well as referrals to other appropriate community agencies.

A youth is defined as an Albertan between the ages of 16 and 24 who is in school, either secondary or post-secondary, working, unemployed, under employed or any combination of the above.

Rupertsland Institute – Métis Training to Employment

#5, 2611 - 37 Ave. NE, Calgary, AB T1Y 5V7

www.metisemployment.ca

Métis Employment Services

Contact: Diane Fehr,
Manager, Métis Training to
Employment – Region South
Ph: 403-250-8902

Toll Free: 1-877-250-4295

Email: dfehr@rupertsland.org

These Youth Employment Programs support and provide employment opportunities and work experience for Métis between the ages of 15 and 30. In partnership with employers, the programs help youth to find career success, link to tools, resources and workplace learning opportunities, build and facilitate effective career-building partnerships and develop successful role models and a skilled Métis workforce.

Trans-Canada Solutions – The Job Resource Centre - Banff and Canmore

Canmore: 109, 710 – 10 St, Canmore, AB T1W 0G7

Banff: 314 Marten Street, Box 2039, Banff, AB T1L 1B8

www.jobresourcecentre.com

Services to Youth

Contact: Jill Pratt

Banff: Ph: 403-760-4447

Canmore: Ph: 403-678-6601

Continuous Intake

This initiative will help youth (aged 16-24) of Canmore, Banff and area connect with the appropriate resources to enable them to develop an effective career, employment and learning plans. This may include the development of a career path, an individual learning plan, or an individual work plan resulting in a comprehensive career development strategy. A youth is defined as an Albertan between the ages of 16 and 24 years. The Client may be in school, either secondary or post-secondary, working, unemployed, or under-employed.

Vermilion Energy/YWCA Skills Training Center

4086 Ogden Rd SE, Calgary, AB T2G 4P7

www.ywcaofcalgary.com/trades

This project has shared provincial and corporate funding. Successful applicants are women who are interested in pursuing a career in construction trades. YWCA housing, childcare and other supports may also be available.

Pre-employment Construction Training

Contact: 403-705-5770

Fax: 403-718-0521

Email:

recruiter@ywcaofcalgary.com

Ongoing Intakes

Contact for dates

This is a 20-week pre-employment trades training program for women. The course is comprised of four areas:

- Communications & Life Management Skills
- Strength and Nutrition Training
- Carpentry focus with exposure to Plumbing and Electrical
- Three-week onsite work experience with a Calgary-based company

YMCA Achievement Programs (YMAP)

Offered in all four quadrants in the City of Calgary.

Ph: 403-531-1660 Fax: 403-531-1664

YMAP (YMCA Achievement Program)

Contact: Angela Brown,
Immigrant Services Manager

Ph: 403-537-1718

Email:

abrown@calgary.ymca.ca

Intake: Annually in the fall

This program is designed for high school immigrant youth ages 14-20 years to give them career exploration and leadership skills. Pre-employment life skills and leadership training are provided, including summer work experience and job opportunities. Participants receive support and learning opportunities to help them succeed at school, at work and in their community.

Youth Employment Centre (YEC)

2nd Flr., 315 - 10 Ave. SE, Calgary, AB T2G 0W2

www.nextsteps.org

Contact: Brenda Hutchinson,
Career Development and
Employment Coordinator

Ph: 403-268-2490 or

403-268-6464

Continuous Intake

Year-round career planning and job search services are offered at no cost to youth between 15-24 years of age. Assistance from the experts is provided on how to write and update resumés, how to ace job interviews, explore career and education options and access training. Connect with a career counsellor for job search and career planning, learn how to network and look for a variety of jobs on the online job board.