

# Social Insurance Number (SIN) Information for **NEWCOMERS AND TEMPORARY RESIDENTS**

## Employment and your SIN

### You need a SIN to work in Canada

- If you are a temporary resident in Canada, you need a valid permit to authorize you to work in Canada
- Your permit and SIN must have the same expiry date

### You can work in Canada as soon as you apply for your SIN

- If you don't have a SIN yet, you can still begin paid work if you apply for your SIN within 3 days of beginning work
- You must provide your SIN to your employer within 3 days of beginning work, or within 3 days of receiving your SIN

### You can continue to work in Canada if you've applied to renew your permit

- If you've applied to renew your work permit or study permit and it expires before a decision is made about your renewal, you can continue to work (this is known as "maintained status")
- If you have maintained status, you can continue to work while your SIN is expired
- It is only once your permit is renewed that you must re-apply to the SIN program to update your SIN's expiry date

## Protecting yourself and your SIN

### Apply for your SIN for free with the Government of Canada

- There is no fee to apply for or to renew a SIN
- You must not allow anyone else to apply for a SIN on your behalf unless they are legally authorized to do so
- There are several ways for you to apply for your SIN ([canada.ca/social-insurance-number](https://canada.ca/social-insurance-number)):
  - Online
  - In person
  - By mail
- You can view your SIN securely through your My Service Canada Account (MSCA) ([canada.ca/my-service-canada-account](https://canada.ca/my-service-canada-account))

### Be aware of scams and fraud

- Learn about and protect yourself against scams and fraud targeting newcomers ([canada.ca/immigration-fraud](https://canada.ca/immigration-fraud))
- If you are paying a representative like an immigration consultant or lawyer, make sure they are licensed
- Find out if your representative is authorized to represent immigrants or to give advice ([canada.ca/immigration-representative](https://canada.ca/immigration-representative))

### Protect your identity

- Be careful who you provide your SIN, your identity documents, and your personal information to

