

Important Information for Canadians Returning to Ontario from Lebanon

If you are a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or landed immigrant returning to Ontario from Lebanon, and you require access to health care, settlement services, social services or education, please read the information provided below.

The Government of Ontario has a dedicated phone number that offers information on health care, settlement support, social services and education. Hours of operation are 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday. Information is available in several languages, including English, French, Lebanese, Arabic and Armenian.

The toll free number to call is 1-866-255-2292.

Health Care:

Canadian citizens, permanent residents and landed immigrants returning to Ontario from Lebanon, need to ensure their Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) card is still valid. In cases where OHIP coverage has expired, returnees are advised to apply as soon as possible for a new OHIP card.

Call the toll free number above for information on:

- The location of the nearest Community Health Centre
- The location of the nearest hospital with emergency services
- OHIP eligibility
- Location of the nearest OHIP office
- Crisis counseling and emotional support which the Ontario government is offering in partnership with the Ontario Psychological Association (OPA)

Settlement:

Settlement and community support services are also available to help find housing, a job, register children in school and other links to community resources.

Call the above toll free number for information on:

- How to find a place to live
- How to find a job
- Location and contact information for settlement organizations across the province.

Social Services

Please call the toll free number for information on:

- How to apply for temporary financial assistance.

Education:

For any or all education related questions, please contact the Ministry of Education Public Inquiries phone line at **1-800-387-5514**. Service is offered in both French and English. The phone lines are open Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, but are closed on weekends and statutory holidays.

Please be aware that eligibility criteria for above services may vary.

Additional Information:

211 Toronto (dial 211 on any telephone in Toronto or 416-397-4636 in the Greater Toronto Area). This is an information/connection service that can provide information and referrals to a wide range of community, social, health and government services in the Toronto area.

Three websites with useful, comprehensive information are:

<http://www.ontarioimmigration.ca/index.asp>

<http://www.settlement.org/>

<http://www.211toronto.ca/index.jsp>

For more information please visit the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration website at www.citizenship.gov.on.ca