

Information We Look At When You Apply For Ontario Works

When you apply for Ontario Works, your personal information is stored in the Ontario Social Assistance Management System (SAMS). To determine your eligibility, staff will access your personal and financial information that is kept in other government or financial computer systems. You will be asked if staff may access this information, however this is a requirement to apply to Ontario Works. If you do not give staff permission to access this information, you cannot apply for Ontario Works.

This means that your caseworker will access your information stored in computers/databases that belong to Equifax, Canada Revenue Agency, Ministry of Transportation, Ontario Student Loan Program and Employment Insurance Benefits.

Staff will access information to see if you are eligible for Ontario Works. This includes:

- Your address
- Your earnings from work
- Where you are working
- Any other income you are receiving
- Spousal and family information
- Bank accounts for all adults in your family
- Cars that you own
- Income from Student Loans

While you receive Ontario Works, it is important to know that the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services will review your information in these computer systems occasionally to make sure the information is the same.

When any of the information listed above is not the same in one of these computer systems/data bases your file will be reviewed so that staff can confirm the information in your Ontario Works file is correct. If the information in your Ontario Works file is not correct, this may mean you have to pay back some of the money you received from Ontario Works.

Please ask your caseworker any questions you may have.

Thank you.