

Ultimate Guide to Finding PSW Jobs

A comprehensive list of top twelve places where you can search and apply for jobs

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www.pswhq.com

A website providing you all the information that you need related to the Personal Support Worker profession in Ontario, Canada.

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“If at any point while you’re reading this guide you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me. You can best reach me at
siteadmin@personalsupportworkerhq.com”

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Thumbs up for choosing to become a Personal Support Worker (PSW)

When choosing an occupation, it is important to choose one that you think you will enjoy working in. In addition, if you are reading this guide, you have most likely chosen to become a PSW. Kudos to you!

You have made a good decision. Following are the three reasons to back up your decision:

i. Salary

Personal Support Workers are amongst the highest paid workers in it's category of workers.

Depending upon the employer, on an average, PSW's get paid anywhere from \$14 to \$23 per hour.

ii. More Jobs

The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) are in the process of transforming the model of health care delivery in Ontario. Part of this transformation is their "Senior's Strategy," which aims to deliver care close to home.

According to this strategy, more and more PSW's will be utilized to offer care at home, in the community. This means more jobs for PSW's.

iii. Job Security

The Healthcare Industry is projected to create many more jobs over the years to come. One recent survey projects this number to be more than 5 million. That is amazing!

Job duties of certain healthcare workers may get consolidated from time to time, but terms like “layoff,” are unheard of in this industry.

So let us fast forward a little bit...

You have chosen to become a Personal Support Worker, completed the course and are now at a point that is important, to start looking for work.

Where do you start?

First things first, Let me tell you where you can work. You may be surprised to find out about places where you never thought PSW's could work.

So, here we go.

2

Where Can You Work?

i. Acute Care Hospitals

More and more hospitals are starting to hire PSW's. This is especially true for hospitals in the Greater Toronto Area such as William Osler Health System.

Depending upon the employer, on an average, PSW's get paid anywhere from \$14 to \$23 per hour.

Some of the inpatient units where PSW's typically work are:

- Rehabilitation
- Palliative Care
- Neurology
- Respiratory
- Dialysis units
- Patient observation in various units

More recently, inpatient units such as Intensive Care unit (ICU) and Cardiac Care Units (CCU) have also started to utilize PSW's to carry out tasks such as personal care and restocking the jit carts.

ii. Sub-Acute Hospitals or Rehab Facilities

These are specialized healthcare facilities for patients who no longer require acute care but are not able to manage on their own yet. They are transition facilities from acute care to home in the community.

PSW's play a vital role during this transitional period by assisting patients in their:

- ✓ Activities of Daily Living (ADL's), and
- ✓ Helping them get back to their highest level of functioning.

Sub-acute units are part of many acute care hospitals and operate as separate facilities as well.

A few examples are St. John's Rehab Hospital and West Park Rehab Hospital in Toronto.

iii. Nursing Homes and Long Term Care homes

These are probably the most well-known facilities where PSW's can work. In fact, they really are.

**More than sixty percent of
Personal Support Workers in
Ontario are employed in Nursing
homes and Long-Term care
homes.**

iv. Mental Health Facilities

Personal Support Workers work in a variety of residential and community mental health facilities and organizations.

In order to be eligible to work in areas of mental health, you may have to do additional courses and training may be required. One very important point to note here is that, once you have acquired additional training, you may be hired for the following positions as well:

- ✓ Housing Support Worker
- ✓ Psychosocial Rehabilitation Worker
- ✓ Peer Support Worker
- ✓ Crisis Counsellor

v. Hospice Care

According to the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association,

“Hospice palliative care is aimed at relief of suffering and improving the quality of life for persons who are living with or dying from advanced illness, or is bereaved”.

There are not many residential hospice care facilities in Ontario. Much of the palliative care is provided in hospitals, nursing homes, long-term care homes and in the community. There are many community-based organizations that specialize in providing in home hospice care. You may have to do additional courses and training to work with such organizations.

vi. Respite Care

Respite care is aimed at providing relief to a family or an individual who provides care on a daily basis to someone who is not able to take care of him/herself due to a physical, developmental or chronic conditions.

PSW's play a major role in providing respite care.

You can either find employment with facilities that offer respite services for a certain period of time during the day, night or round the clock.

Many community based organizations also work with families to provide in-home respite care services.

So now that you have an idea of where Personal Support Workers can work, the next question that may be on your mind is to find a PSW position and apply for it.

This is exactly what you will find next.

3

How Can I Find a Job?

Below you will find twelve different places where you can find and apply for the job you like.

Before I start with the list, I want to let you know that almost all PSW jobs are posted online. It is very rare that you will find jobs posted as hardcopies on job boards. In addition, if you do find a job posted on a physical job board, it will most likely tell you to go online to apply for that position.

Therefore, in order to find a PSW job, you have to have access to a computer and some basic knowledge on how to use it.

i. myPSW

This is a website that enables PSWs to create a professional profile on line enabling families to find and contact you directly. The two most immediate benefits are that families can secure a trained PSW for significantly less and equally important PSWs can earn in some cases significantly more.

What is really unique about the myPSW model from other online services is that it acts as the PSWs back office. PSW log in and out from their client's home using the myPSW telephony system which creates electronic time slips. From there myPSW facilitates all billing and payments between the PSW and the client.

Essentially myPSW acts as your own personal secretary.

myPSW promotes you as a self-employed professional resulting in much more flexibility where you have your own schedule and decide on who, where and when you will work.

You can register on this website anytime, but in order for you to be able to accept assignments through mypsw.ca, you have to provide the following:

- ✓ PSW Certificate from one of the [following schools](#).
- ✓ Recent Police check.
- ✓ Professional liability insurance (can be acquired through site).

myPSW is scheduled to launch it's service to consumers in early 2014.

For more information, please visit www.mypsw.ca.

ii. Home Health Care Network (HHN)

Here is another online web portal connecting Personal Support Workers with individuals and families that require non-medical support.

According to the HHN website, it helps Personal Support Workers (PSW's) - as professional care givers – to find work to fit their schedule. It also allows them to work independently, retain more of their wages, and develop their career as a professional home healthcare provider.

The way it works is pretty simple.

You set up an account on their website and build your profile. Families who are looking for a PSW can browse through all the profiles. If someone likes your profile, he/she can get in touch with you through the website and set up an interview.

If all goes well, the family will hire you for Personal Support Services.

For more information, visit www.homehealthcarenetwork.com

iii. Pswjobs.com

This website lists all temporary, casual, part-time, and full time Personal Support Worker jobs.

It is unique in the sense that you can find jobs neatly organized.

It also lists how you can apply for a particular job and when the job listing expires.

For more information, please visit www.pswjobs.com

iv. Canadian Job Bank

This is a great source to start your search.

***It is a Government of Canada website and all employers posting jobs are verified.
Rest assured that all jobs posted are genuine.***

Employment agencies and individuals who are looking for PSW's for private care post most of the PSW job postings on this website.

More details about various features and functions of this website can be [found here](#).

v. Monster.ca

This is a great source for you to look for jobs. Besides the job search tools, this website offers many articles on subjects including interview preparation, resume writing, and many other job related topics.

You can create your profile and submit your resume to the website. This way a potential employer can contact you if you match their requirements.

For more information, [read this article](#).

vi. Workopolis.ca

This is one of the best websites to find PSW jobs. Many hospitals, nursing homes, and cities collaborate with this website to post positions for Personal Support Workers.

You can create your profile and submit a resume to the website.

For more information, please [read this article](#).

vii. Indeed.ca

Here is an online job search engine, which pulls PSW jobs posted all over the web and displays according to the criteria you specify. You will surely find a position that you like on this website.

For more information, please [read this article](#).

viii. Workingincanada.gc.ca

This website is operated by the Canadian government and is a very reliable source of PSW job postings.

One unique aspect of this website is that it pulls Personal Support Worker jobs from all other job search engines such as Workopolis.ca and Monster.ca.

It even lists jobs that are posted on the job bank at jobbank.gc.ca. It can be a huge timesaver for you since all jobs are displayed at one location and you do not have to search other sites.

For more information, please [read this article](#).

ix. Hospital websites

Almost all Ontario hospitals that hire PSW's, post jobs online on their websites. It is a great idea to bookmark the careers section of the hospitals that hire PSW's, and check the job postings frequently.

You may also set up your profile and sign up for email alerts, if the website offers the option to do so.

Please note that not all Ontario hospitals hire PSW's.

x. City and Nursing home websites

Jobs for Nursing homes operated by a particular city are listed on their website. Nursing homes and long term care homes list new PSW positions on their websites as well.

xi. Red Cross

Red Cross is actively involved in providing support services to seniors in the community. They hire PSW's for Personal care, home management, respite care, and companionship.

In Ontario, Red Cross care partners offer home and community care services. They hire PSW's and all job postings are posted online on their website.

For more information, visit www.redcrosscarepartners.ca

xii. Employment agencies

Many healthcare employment agencies operate in Ontario. They offer a wide variety of jobs to PSW's.

If you are just starting out, it is a great place to start and get some experience under your belt. You also get exposure to various residential facilities and the community work, since working for an employment agency can change on a daily basis.

You can do a search on yellow pages or just a Google search to find such agencies in your area.

4

Closing Remarks

We at *Personal Support Worker Headquarters* want to wish you the best of luck for your job search!

We're confident that if you follow the tips in this guide you will give yourself the best chance of landing your next job.

If you are applying for PSW jobs, but your efforts are not yielding results, don't worry! There are plenty of organizations that are still looking to fill positions - you just have to get out there and apply!

You can always use the "PSW Jobs" section on our website to find great articles and resources to help you with your job search.

Click the link below to see our jobs page:

[Personal Support Worker Jobs](#)

Moreover, you can always come back to *Personal Support Worker Headquarters* for specific and up-to-date information related to PSW's in Ontario.

Good luck!

The PSWHQ Team

<http://www.pswhq.com>