1. What are apprentices in trades schools supposed to do during the strike?

Apprentices are not expected to cross picket lines. Apprentices who are referred under Section 25 of the Employment Insurance (EI) Act are deemed to be unemployed, capable of and available for work for the duration of their course. At this time, and consistent with past practice, the Canada Employment Insurance Commission (CEIC) will allow EI benefits for apprentices to continue for a period of 3 weeks following the claimant's last day of classes due to the labour dispute. Should the strike continue beyond 3 weeks, the CEIC will determine if additional measures are required.

2. Are they supposed to change their EI category?

No. All EI claimants, including apprentices, are asked to inform the CEIC if their situation changes (for example, they become ill).

3. Are they supposed to go back to work?

Apprentices are not expected to cross picket lines. As mentioned above, at this time, and consistent with past practice, the CEIC will allow EI benefits for apprentices to continue for a period of 3 weeks following the claimant's last day of classes due to the labour dispute. Should the strike continue beyond 3 weeks, the CEIC will determine if additional measures are required.

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