

COVID-19 Financial Supports

Last Updated March 19, 2020

Changes to Existing Benefits

Provider	Benefit & Description	Intended Recipients	Contact Information	Information Link	Application Link
Service Canada, Government of Canada	<p>Employment Insurance (EI) Sickness Benefit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recipients can receive 55% of their earnings up to a maximum of \$573 a week The one-week waiting period for those in quarantine is waived The requirement to provide a medical certificate is waived 	Those employed who cannot work due to illness, injury or quarantine	<p>1-833-381-2725</p> <p>(A dedicated phone line regarding EI claims for COVID-19 quarantine and illness)</p>	https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-sickness.html	https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-sickness/apply.html
Service Canada, Government of Canada	<p>Employment Insurance:</p> <p>For most, the basic rate for calculating EI benefits is 55% of average insurable weekly earnings, up to a maximum amount. As of January 1, 2020, the maximum yearly insurable earnings amount is \$54,200 resulting in a maximum amount of \$573 per week.</p>	Individuals who lose their jobs through no fault of their own	https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/contact/ei-individual.html	https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/ei/ei-list/reports/regular-checklist.html	https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-regular-benefit/apply.html
Global Affairs Canada, Government of Canada	<p>COVID-19 Emergency Loan Program for Canadians Abroad:</p> <p>Repayable loan of up to \$5000 to help secure a timely return to Canada and to temporarily cover life-sustaining needs while working towards the return.</p>	Canadians who have no available source of funds to return home	CAN.finances.CV19@international.gc.ca	https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-to-provide-financial-assistance-to-canadians-abroad.html	n/a
Edmonton Transit Services (ETS), City of Edmonton	<p> Holders of March low-income Ride Transit Program passes will be able to use their passes throughout April</p>	Those receiving the low income transit pass	311	https://www.edmonton.ca/ets/subsidized-transit.aspx	https://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/PDF/LeisureAccessProgramApplication.pdf

See next page for coming benefit programs. →

Upcoming Benefits

Provider	Benefit	Description	Intended Recipients	Anticipated Availability	Links
Government of Canada	Emergency Care Benefit	Money every two weeks to workers who have to stay home because they are sick, in quarantine, isolation or caring for someone who is sick. The program will provide 14 weeks of benefits up to \$900 bi-weekly, for up to 15 weeks	<p>Workers, including the self-employed, who are quarantined or sick with COVID-19 but do not qualify for EI sickness benefits.</p> <p>Workers, including the self-employed, who are taking care of a family member who is sick with COVID-19, such as an elderly parent, but do not qualify for EI sickness benefits.</p> <p>Parents with children who require care or supervision due to school closures, and are unable to earn employment income, irrespective of whether they qualify for EI or not.</p>	Early April	https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2020/03/canadas-covid-19-economic-response-plan-support-for-canadians-and-businesses.html
Government of Canada	Emergency Support Benefit	TBD	Canadians who lose their job and are not eligible for employment insurance, including people who are self-employed.	Early April	https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2020/03/canadas-covid-19-economic-response-plan-support-for-canadians-and-businesses.html
Government of Canada	Goods and Services Tax Credit (GSTC)	<p>One-time special payment through the Goods and Services Tax credit (GSTC). This will double the maximum annual GSTC payment amounts for the 2019-20 benefit year</p> <p>Average boost will be close to \$400 for single individuals and close to \$600 for couples</p>	Low and modest income families	Early May	https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2020/03/canadas-covid-19-economic-response-plan-support-for-canadians-and-businesses.html
Government of Canada	Canada Child Benefit (CCB)	Increase the maximum annual payment amounts only for the 2019-20 benefit year, by \$300 per child. The overall increase for families receiving CCB will be approximately \$550 on average; these families will receive an extra \$300 per child		May CCB payment	https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2020/03/canadas-covid-19-economic-response-plan-support-for-canadians-and-businesses.html#Income_Support_for
Government of Alberta	Emergency Isolation	One-time payment of \$1,146 will be distributed to bridge the gap until the federal emergency payments begin in April	A temporary program for working adult Albertans who must self-isolate because they meet the Government of Alberta's published criteria for self-isolation, including persons who are the sole caregiver for a dependent who must self-isolate because they meet the public health criteria, and who will not have another source of pay or compensation while they are self-isolated.	via online application through Alberta.ca	