

FACT SHEET

To support workers and their families, the Government of Canada is taking action to:

- Introduce an Emergency Care Benefit of up to \$900 bi-weekly for up to 15 weeks to provide income support to workers who must stay home and do not have access to paid sick leave.
- EI-eligible and non EI-eligible working parents who must stay home without pay because of children who are sick or who need additional care because of school closures.
- Extend the tax filing deadline for individuals to June 1, and allow all taxpayers to defer, until after August 31, 2020, the payment of any income tax amounts
- Provide increased flexibility to lenders to defer mortgage payments on homeowner government-insured mortgage loans to borrowers who may be experiencing financial difficulties related to the outbreak. Insurers will permit lenders to allow payment deferral beginning immediately.
- Implement a six-month, interest-free, moratorium on Canada Student Loan payments for all individuals who are in the process of repaying these loans.
- Waiving the one-week waiting period for those individuals in imposed quarantine that claim Employment Insurance (EI) sickness benefits. This temporary measure is in effect as of March 15, 2020.
- Provide additional assistance to families with children

Temporary Income Support for Workers and Parents

For Canadians without paid sick leave who are sick, quarantined or forced to stay home to care for children, the Government is:

- Waiving the one-week waiting period for those individuals in imposed quarantine that claim Employment Insurance (EI) sickness benefits.
- Waiving the requirement to provide a medical certificate to access EI sickness benefits.
- Introducing the Emergency Care Benefit providing up to \$900 bi-weekly, for up to 15 weeks. This flat-payment Benefit would be administered through the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and provide income support to:
 - Workers, including the self-employed, who are quarantined or sick with COVID-19 but do not qualify for EI sickness benefits.
 - 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.
 - 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.

Application for the Benefit will be available in April 2020, and require Canadians to attest that they meet the eligibility requirements. They will need to re-attest every two weeks to reconfirm their eligibility. Canadians will select one of three channels to apply for the Benefit:

1. By accessing it on their CRA MyAccount secure portal;
2. By accessing it from their secure My Service Canada Account; or
3. By calling a toll free number equipped with an automated application process.

For a more detail regarding financial support during Covid-19, please go to the link below:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/03/canadas-covid-19-economic-response-plan-support-for-canadians-and-businesses.html>

Other Assistance can include

- **Alberta Works**
 - Emergency Financial Assistance
 - Emergency assistance for Albertans facing utility disconnection
 - Support for those fleeing an abusive relationship
- Contact your Income Support worker for all related Income Support questions.
- If you do not know how to reach your worker, contact your local Alberta Supports or Alberta Works Centre.
 - For location of offices, please go to the link below:

- <https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-supports.aspx>

- To connect with the main Alberta Supports Contact Centre:
 - Hours: 7:30 am to 8 pm (open Monday to Friday, closed statutory holidays)
Toll free: 1-877-644-9992
Email: css.ascc@gov.ab.ca
- 24-hour Emergency Income Support Contact Centre
 - Get emergency financial assistance to help with basic needs like shelter, food, clothing and transportation.
 - Hours: 24/7
Toll free: 1-866-644-5135
Fax: 780-422-9681
Email: css.iscc@gov.ab.ca

Albertans

Albertans who are not receiving Income Support can call the 24-hour Emergency Income Support Contact Centre, at: 1-866-644-5135 toll-free 780-644-5135 in Edmonton

For more details regarding Alberta Works, please go to the link below:

<https://www.alberta.ca/income-support-what-you-get.aspx>