

Government Supports for Businesses Impacted by COVID-19: Canada Revenue Agency Programs



Emergency Support Benefit

Federal government program providing income support for individuals who lose their jobs or face reduced hours resulting from the impact of COVID-19. The program will provide financial support retroactively to March 15, 2020. Up to date information and online application available via Canada Revenue Service MyAccount* or My Service Canada Account portal**.

Implementation date: Early April 2020

Emergency Care Benefit

Federal program for self-employed individuals who are:

- sick, quarantined, or who have been directed to self-isolate but do not qualify for Employment Insurance (EI) sickness benefits
- taking care of a family member who is sick with COVID-19, such as an elderly parent or other dependents who are sick, but do not qualify for EI sickness benefits
- working parents who must stay home without pay because of children who are sick or who need additional care because of school closures.

Payments will be retroactive to March 15, 2020. Benefits will provide up to \$900 bi-weekly, for up to 15 weeks. Up to date information and online application available via Canada Revenue Service MyAccount* or My Service Canada Account portal**.

Implementation date: Early April 2020

Temporary Business Wage Subsidy

Federal government program for small businesses that keep employees on payroll including corporations eligible for the small business deduction as well as non-profit organizations, charities and certain Canadian Controlled Private Corporations. Eligible employers that pay remuneration to an employee, such as salary, wages, or taxable benefits, on or after March 18th, 2020, and before June 20th, 2020, are permitted to reduce remittances of federal, provincial, or territorial income tax by the amount of the subsidy. This measure is only applicable to remittances made to the CRA.

Implementation date: Effective Immediately

Income Tax Reprieve

Businesses can receive cash flow support and deferred work effort through this program from the federal government. Payments on income tax amounts that become owing on or after March 18 2020 and by August 31 2020 can be deferred. This relief would apply to tax balances due, as well as instalments, under Part I of the Income Tax Act. No interest or penalties will accumulate on these amounts during this period.

For **self-employed individuals or those who have spouses or common-law partners that are self-employed**, the deadline to pay any balance due for your individual income tax and benefit return has been deferred to August 31, 2020, however your income tax and benefit returns still needs to be filed by June 15, 2020.

Implementation date: Effective Immediately

Source for Program Information: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update.html>

***Canada Revenue Agency's MyAccount** is a secure portal that lets you view your personal income tax and benefit information and manage your tax affairs online. Visit www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency.html to log in /register for a CRA My Account.

****My Service Canada Account (MSCA)** is a secure online portal that lets you apply, view and update your information for Employment Insurance (EI). Visit www.canada.ca to log in /register for a My Service Canada Account.

