



## **COVID-19 Government of Canada Support for Individuals**

The Government of Canada is taking immediate, significant and decisive action to help Canadians facing hardship as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. The Canada Revenue Agency will provide help to individuals with the following measures.

### **Extra time to file income tax returns**

For individuals (other than trusts), the return filing due date will be deferred until June 1, 2020.

The Canada Revenue Agency will also allow any new income tax balances due, or instalments, to be deferred until after August 31, 2020 without incurring interest or penalties.

### **Increase to the Canada Child Benefit:**

The government of Canada is providing an extra \$300 per child through the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) for 2019-20. This benefit will be delivered as part of the scheduled CCB payment in May.

**Those who already receive the Canada Child Benefit do not need to re-apply.**

### **Special Goods and Services Tax credit payment:**

The government of Canada is providing a one-time special payment by early May through the Goods and Services Tax credit for low- and modest-income families. The average additional benefit will be close to \$400 for single individuals and close to \$600 for couples.

**There is no need to apply for this payment. If you are eligible, you will get it automatically.**

### **The new Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB):**

The CERB will provide a taxable benefit of \$2,000 a month for up to 4 months to:



- workers who must stop working due to COVID19 and do not have access to paid leave or other income support.
- workers who are sick, quarantined, or taking care of someone who is sick with COVID-19.
- working parents who must stay home without pay to care for children that are sick or need additional care because of school and daycare closures.
- workers who still have their employment but are not being paid because there is currently not sufficient work and their employer has asked them not to come to work.
- wage earners and self-employed individuals, including contract workers, who would not otherwise be eligible for Employment Insurance.

Canadians would begin to receive their CERB payments within 10 days of application. The CERB would be paid every four weeks and be available from March 15, 2020 until October 3, 2020.

Canadians who are already receiving EI regular and sickness benefits as of today would continue to receive their benefits and should not apply to the CERB. If their EI benefits end before October 3, 2020, they could apply for the CERB once their EI benefits cease, if they are unable to return to work due to COVID-19. Canadians who have already applied for EI and whose application has not yet been processed would not need to reapply. Canadians who are eligible for EI regular and sickness benefits would still be able to access their normal EI benefits, if still unemployed, after the 16-week period covered by the CERB.

**The Canada Emergency Response Benefit will be accessible through a secure web portal or [My Account](#) starting in early April. Applicants will also be able to apply via an automated telephone line or via a toll-free number.**

### **Reduced minimum withdrawals for Registered Retirement Income Funds:**

The Government of Canada is reducing the required minimum withdrawals from Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIFs) by 25% for 2020.



## **Resources**

### **[Contact the Canada Revenue Agency](#)**

Personal taxes, benefits and trust:

1. General Inquires line: 1-800-959-8281
2. Canada Child Benefit and related benefits: 1-800-387-1193
3. Provincial Payment inquires (Ontario Trillium Benefit, Ontario Sales tax credits, Ontario senior homeowners' property tax grant etc.):  
1-877-627-6645
4. Order your 2019 income tax package: 1-855-330-3305

Service Canada:

1. Canada Pension Plan/Old Age Security/Guaranteed Income Supplement: 1-800-277-9914
2. EI: 1-800-206-7218

Business:

1. Business Inquiries: 1-800-959-5525

## **Government of Canada COVID-19 Resources**

### **[Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)](#)**

### **[COVID-19: Changes to Canadian taxes and benefits](#)**

**Don't get scammed!** Beware of tax fraud schemes. If you get a call, text or an email that sounds like a scam, it probably is! When in doubt, verify your information in My Account or call the CRA. For more information, go to **[canada.ca/taxes-fraud-prevention](https://canada.ca/taxes-fraud-prevention)**.