

Benefits available for individuals due to the coronavirus pandemic

Last updated: April 29, 2020

Government of Canada

Name of Benefit	Type of Benefit	Amount	Need to Apply?
Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)	Weekly payment for workers ineligible for employment insurance (EI); this is a taxable benefit.	\$500 per week for up to 16 weeks	Yes - either by phone at 1-800-959-2019 or 1-800-959-2041, or online via the CRA login
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	Subsidy to employers	75% of wage	No - employees who receive the benefit cannot apply for other unemployment benefits
Canada Child Benefit (CCB)	One time enhancement to May 2020 payment	Extra \$300 per child	No - automatic if you already receive the CCB
Goods and Services Tax Credit	One time enhancement starting with April 9, 2020 payment for low- to moderate-income families	Varies; average of \$400 for singles, \$600 for couples	No - if you are eligible you will receive it automatically (if you have filed your 2018 income tax return)
2019 Income Tax filing deferred	Income Tax return filing date deferred until June 1, 2020; taxes due deferred until August 31	Varies	No. If you expect to receive benefits under the GST credit or CCB, then don't delay filing
Mortgage support	Various tools to defer or reduce home mortgage payments	Varies	Yes - speak with your mortgage lender
Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIF)	Reduced minimum withdrawals	25% reduction	No - applicable for 2020 only
National Student Loans Service Centre	Student loan payment deferral	Varies	No - repayment paused automatically until Oct. 2020
Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB)	Monthly payment for eligible students from May through August, 2020.	\$1,250 per month \$1750 for students with dependents and those with permanent disabilities.	The CESB will be delivered by CRA and more details will be communicated.

Website for more information: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html>

Government of British Columbia

Name of Benefit	Type of Benefit	Amount	Need to Apply?
BC Emergency Benefit for Workers	One-time payment if unable to work due to COVID-19	\$1,000	Yes. Online application at gov.bc.ca/workerbenefit . Phone applications will begin on May 4.
Climate Action Tax Credit	One time enhancement to July 2020 payment for low- to moderate-income families	Adult - increase of up to \$175; Children +\$61	No - automatically calculated when you file your 2019 income tax return
Support for Income & Disability Assistance	Supplement to regular income, disability, or senior's assistance	\$300 per month	No - automatically receive an increase in support for April, May, and June 2020 if not on EI or CERB
Temporary Rent Supplement	Rent supplement for low- to moderate-income renters	Up to \$500 per month	Yes - via the BC Housing website
Evictions Halted	No tenant may be evicted, except in extreme cases of safety concern	N/A	No
BC Hydro COVID-19 Relief Fund (individuals and small businesses)	Credit for monthly bill from April - June 2020 - no need to repay	Three months of bills	Yes - must apply by June 30, 2020
BC Hydro Customer Crisis Fund	Grant	Up to \$600	Yes - online, or contact BC Hydro at 1-(800)-224-9376
BC Hydro Customer Assistance Program	Defer bill payment	Varies	Yes - contact BC Hydro at 1-(800)-224-9376
StudentAid BC	Student loan payment deferral	Varies	No - repayment paused automatically until Oct. 2020
Student Emergency Fund	Grant - no need to repay	Varies	Yes - school financial aid office
ICBC - Autoplan payment plan	Defer bill payment	Varies - defer up to 90 days	Yes - online or phone

Website for more information: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support>

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