

# Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

## Canada information

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/apply-for-cerb-with-cra.html>

## What is the Canada Emergency Response Benefit?

If you have lost income because of COVID-19, the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) will provide you with temporary income support.

The CERB will provide you with \$500 a week for up to 16 weeks.

## How to apply

Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) will start accepting **new** applications on April 6. If you applied for EI regular or sickness benefits on March 15, 2020 or later, **your claim will be automatically processed** through the Canada Emergency Response Benefit.

Prior to April 6, individuals who are without work and are eligible for EI can continue to [apply for Employment Insurance](#).

If you are not eligible for Employment Insurance, find out how you can get ready to apply for the CERB through the [Canada Revenue Agency](#).

Whether you apply online or by phone, the CRA wants to provide the best service possible to everyone. To help manage this, the CRA has set up specific days for you to apply. Please use the following guidelines:

### Day to apply for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit

If you were born in the month of	Apply for CERB on	Your best day to apply
January, February or March	Mondays	April 6
April, May, or June	Tuesdays	April 7
July, August, or September	Wednesdays	April 8
October, November, or December	Thursdays	April 9
Any month	Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays	

## Eligibility

The benefit will be available to workers:

- Residing in Canada, who are at least 15 years old;
- Who have stopped working because of COVID-19 or are eligible for Employment Insurance regular or sickness benefits;
- Who had income of at least \$5,000 in 2019 or in the 12 months prior to the date of their application; and

- Who are or expect to be without employment or self-employment income for at least 14 consecutive days in the initial four-week period. For subsequent benefit periods, they expect to have no employment income.

The income of at least \$5,000 may be from any or a combination of the following sources: employment; self-employment; maternity and parental benefits under the Employment Insurance program and/or similar benefits paid in Quebec under the Quebec Parental Insurance Plan.

The Benefit is only available to individuals who stopped work as a result of reasons related to COVID-19. If you are looking for a job but haven't stopped working because of COVID-19, you are not eligible for the Benefit.

**Consult the Government of Canada website for [all questions and answers about CERB](#).**