

# Benefits available for individuals due to the coronavirus pandemic

Last updated: April 15, 2020

## Government of Canada

Name of Benefit	Type of Benefit	Amount	Need to Apply?
<b>Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)</b>	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
<b>Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy</b>	Subsidy to employers	75% of wage	No - employees who receive the benefit cannot apply for other unemployment benefits
<b>Canada Child Benefit (CCB)</b>	One time enhancement to May 2020 payment	Extra \$300 per child	No - automatic if you already receive the CCB
<b>Goods and Services Tax Credit</b>	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)
<b>2019 Income Tax filing deferred</b>	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
<b>Mortgage support</b>	Various tools to defer or reduce home mortgage payments	Varies	Yes - speak with your mortgage lender
<b>Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIF)</b>	Reduced minimum withdrawals	25% reduction	No - applicable for 2020 only
<b>National Student Loans Service Centre</b>	Student loan payment deferral	Varies	No - repayment paused automatically until Oct. 2020

**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?
<b>BC Emergency Benefit for Workers</b>	One-time payment if unable to work due to COVID-19	\$1,000	Yes - application process being created
<b>Climate Action Tax Credit</b>	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
<b>Support for Income &amp; Disability Assistance</b>	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
<b>Temporary Rent Supplement</b>	Rent supplement for low- to moderate-income renters	Up to \$500 per month	Yes - via the BC Housing website
<b>Evictions Halted</b>	No tenant may be evicted, except in extreme cases of safety concern	N/A	No
<b>BC Hydro COVID-19 Relief Fund (individuals and small businesses)</b>	Credit for monthly bill from April - June 2020 - no need to repay	Three months of bills	Yes - must apply by June 30, 2020
<b>BC Hydro Customer Crisis Fund</b>	Grant	Up to \$600	Yes - online, or contact BC Hydro at 1-(800)-224-9376
<b>BC Hydro Customer Assistance Program</b>	Defer bill payment	Varies	Yes - contact BC Hydro at 1-(800)-224-9376
<b>StudentAid BC</b>	Student loan payment deferral	Varies	No - repayment paused automatically until Oct. 2020
<b>Student Emergency Fund</b>	Grant - no need to repay	Varies	Yes - school financial aid office
<b>ICBC - Autoplan payment plan</b>	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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