

BC Labour Market Hot Sheet

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Applications for B.C. Emergency Benefit for Workers to open May 1

Government / Emergency Support

Temporary relief is on the way for British Columbians whose ability to work has been affected by COVID-19, with applications for the \$1,000 **B.C. Emergency Benefit for Workers (BCEBW)** opening on May 1, 2020.

"This benefit is further help for British Columbians who are worried about paying their bills and making ends meet during the COVID-19 pandemic," said Carole James, Minister of Finance. "During these uncertain times, we want to get through this together by helping displaced workers support themselves and their families."

The BCEBW is a one-time, tax-free \$1,000 payment for British Columbians whose ability to work has been affected as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Most people who are eligible for the new federal **Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)** are also eligible for the BCEBW, including those who have run out of employment insurance (EI) benefits and subsequently qualify for the CERB.

To be eligible for the BCEBW, people must:

- have been a resident of British Columbia on March 15, 2020;
- meet the eligibility requirements for the CERB;
- have been approved for the CERB, even if they have not received a benefit yet;
- be at least 15 years old on the date of application;
- have filed, or agree to file, a 2019 B.C. income tax return; and
- not be receiving provincial income assistance or disability assistance.

Starting May 1, applications can be made online, at any time, and a link to the application portal will be available at: www.gov.bc.ca/workerbenefit

Also starting May 1, people can call 778 309-4630 or toll-free within B.C. at 1 855 955-3545, Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Pacific time) for general support or questions. Applications over the phone will begin on May 4.

This document is just a sample of this week's **BC Labour Market Report 'Hot Sheet'**. To view the complete report, with links to items such as job postings and events, please review this week's email.

Career Events

Victoria (Langford) Home Depot Virtual Job Fair

Thurs April 30th | 11am-1pm

Location: Victoria (Langford) Home Depot, 2400 Millstream Road, Victoria, British Columbia

RSVP to an Indeed Landing Page

Apply on-line at

www.homedepot.ca/careers

Email your resume to

HDCanadajobs_West@homedepot.com

Payments will start to go out within days of application. While there may be minor delays during the initial surge, government staff will be working to quickly process payments.

The benefit is part of the Province's \$5-billion COVID-19 Action Plan to provide income supports, tax relief and direct funding for people and businesses, and to support the services.

New Support for students and new grads affected by COVID-19

Education / Student Employment

The **Government of Canada** has announced comprehensive support of nearly \$9 billion for post-secondary students and recent graduates. This plan will help provide the financial support they need this summer, help them continue their studies in the fall, and help many get the experience they need to start their careers. These measures include launching:

- the proposed **Canada Emergency Student Benefit**, which would provide support to students and new graduates who are not eligible for the **Canada Emergency Response Benefit**. This benefit would provide \$1,250 per month for eligible students or \$1,750 per month for eligible students with dependents or disabilities. The benefit would be available from May to August 2020.
- the new Canada Student Service Grant, which will help students gain valuable work experience and skills while they help their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. For students who choose to do national service and serve their communities, the new Canada Student Service Grant will provide up to \$5,000 for their education in the fall.

The Government of Canada will expand existing federal employment, skills development, and youth programming to create up to 116,000 jobs, placements, and other training opportunities to help students find employment and develop valuable skills this summer and over the coming months. In addition, to help students continue their studies in the fall, the government will:

- double the **Canada Student Grants** for all eligible full-time students to up to \$6,000 and up to \$3,600 for part-time students in 2020-21. The Canada Student Grants for Students with Permanent Disabilities and Students with Dependents would also be doubled.
- broaden eligibility for student financial assistance by removing the expected student's and spouse's contributions in 2020-21, in recognition that many students and families will struggle to save for school this year.
- enhance the Canada Student Loans Program by raising the maximum weekly amount that can be provided to a student in 2020-21 from \$210 to \$350.
- increase existing distinctions-based support for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Nation students pursuing post-secondary education by providing an additional \$75.2 million in 2020-21.
- extend expiring federal graduate research scholarships and postdoctoral fellowships, and supplement existing federal research grants, to support students and post-doctoral fellows, by providing \$291.6 million to the federal granting councils. In addition, the government intends to enhance work opportunities for graduate students and post-doctoral fellows through the **National Research Council of Canada**.

Job Postings

To post a job here, please email: BCLMR@Outlook.com (When you write your cover letter, please mention you saw this advertisement in the BC Labour Market Report.)

Employment Counsellor ***NEW***

Options Community Services Society
Surrey, British Columbia
Closes: Unknown

Employment Counsellor

S.U.C.C.E.S.S.
Metro Vancouver Regional District, British Columbia
Closes: Unknown

Official believe, these programs will not only help ensure more students get the financial support they need, but the opportunities and experience many students were counting on.

British Columbia's significant labour market stories related to COVID-19 this week

Breaking News / Labour Market Impacts

- Companies, societies, co-operatives now able to meet electronically
- Commercial electricity consumption plummets across B.C. during COVID-19 pandemic
- Pandemic drags down employment
- Women disproportionately 'bearing the brunt' of coronavirus crisis, advocates say
- Education assistants find new ways to help students
- Technology loans giving more children the opportunity to learn at home
- WorkBC offering virtual help during COVID-19 pandemic
- How early-career scientists are coping with COVID-19 challenges and fears
- **Pizza Hut** is currently hiring for positions across Canada
- City of Vancouver lays off 300 additional employees
- What you need to know about federal and provincial support for B.C. businesses and workers during the COVID-19 pandemic (updated)
- New ticketing measures to enforce Emergency Program Act orders

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