

The Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) was an important and necessary temporary response to support Canadians, providing up to 28 weeks of income support to those who had to stop working due to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

TRANSITIONING TO THE EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (EI) PROGRAM

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

The majority of Canadians who received CERB through Service Canada, and who continue to report a need for financial assistance, will be automatically transitioned to EI regular benefits once their 28-weeks of CERB has been paid (or when the CERB payment period ends on October 3, 2020). Claimants will receive an email or a letter informing them that they have been automatically transitioned to EI.

In a few instances, some Canadians will need to re-apply for EI regular benefits to ensure Service Canada can confirm aspects of their application that were not previously required for the receipt of CERB. Claimants will receive an email or a letter providing instructions on how to apply. Applicants that have been or may be eligible for any other type of EI benefit will need to reapply.

Canadians who received CERB through the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and who continue to require financial assistance once the 28-weeks of CERB has been exhausted will need to reapply.

If applicants are found to be eligible to receive EI benefits, they should receive their first payment within 28 days of the date Service Canada receives their application and all required documents. If applicants are not entitled to receive EI benefits, Service Canada will contact them by letter or by telephone to provide the explanation.

SUPPORTING ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Starting September 27, the following new temporary income supports will be introduced for Canadians as CERB winds down:

- **Canada Recovery Benefit** for workers who are self-employed or are not eligible for EI and still require income support if they still cannot resume or return to work.
 - Provides up to a maximum of 26 weeks of benefits;
 - Payment of \$500 per week;
 - Same core eligibility conditions as CERB (i.e., residency, age, income, job loss) and is attestation-based;
 - Workers will need to repay \$0.50 of every dollar earned above an annual net income of \$38,000 through their income tax return, up to the total of the Canada Recovery Benefit they received in a calendar year.
- **Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit** for workers who are ill or must self-isolate for reasons related to COVID-19.
 - Provides \$500 per week, for up to two weeks;
 - Both EI-eligible and non-eligible individuals could access the benefit;
 - Same core eligibility conditions as CERB (i.e., residency, age, income, job loss) and is attestation-based.
- **Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit** for workers unable to work to care for a child, dependent or family member because schools, daycares or care facilities are closed due to COVID-19.
 - Provides \$500 per week for up to 26 weeks per household;
 - Both EI-eligible and non-eligible individuals could access the benefit;
 - Same core eligibility conditions as CERB (i.e., residency, age, income, job loss) and is attestation-based;
 - The benefit may be shared; however, only one member of a household at any time can receive the benefit.