

Financial Supports for those Affected by COVID-19

What is the BC-Temporary Rental Supplement (BC-TRS) Program?

- Temporary supplement to assist eligible low- and moderate-income renters who are struggling to pay their rent as a result of COVID-19.
- Up to \$500 paid directly to landlord depending on various factors
- Applications open mid-April. Tenants and landlords each need to submit an application
- More information at <https://www.bchousing.org/COVID-19>

Laid off?

- Apply for regular EI benefits
- Need between 420 and 700 hours of insurable employment based on unemployment rate in your area
- If became eligible for EI on March 15th or later, claim will be processed through Canada Emergency Response Benefit. (CERB)
- 1 week waiting period in which you will not be paid
- More information and application at <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-regular-benefit.html>
- Call 1-800-206-7218 for information

In self-quarantine & unable to work?

- Apply for EI Sickness Benefits
- 1 week waiting period has been waived
- Need at least 600 hours of insurable earnings in past 52 weeks
- If became eligible for EI benefits on March 15th or later, claim will be processed through Canada Emergency Response Benefit. (CERB)
- You will not have to provide a medical certificate
- More information and application at <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-sickness/apply.html>
- Call 1-833-381-2725 for information

What is the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)?

- Taxable benefit of \$500 a week for up to 16 weeks for:
 - **Workers who must stop working** due to COVID19 and do not have access to paid leave or other income support.
 - **Workers who are sick, quarantined, or taking care of someone** who is sick with COVID 19.
 - **Working parents** who must stay home without pay to care for children that are sick or need additional care because of school and daycare closures.
 - **Workers who still have their employment but are not being paid** because there is currently not sufficient work and their employer has asked them not to come to work.
 - **Wage earners and self-employed individuals**, including contract workers, who would not otherwise be eligible for Employment Insurance.
- Need an income of at least \$5,000 in 2019 or in 12 months prior to date of application
- If became eligible for EI regular or sickness benefits prior to March 15th, your claim will be processed under pre-existing EI rules
- More information, FAQ and how to apply at <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application.html>

Do I qualify for WorkSafe BC Benefits?

- WorkSafe BC benefits are not for preventative measures or non-work related exposures
- Only file a claim for COVID-19 if it was contracted through a work-related exposure

For more information on supports please go to

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