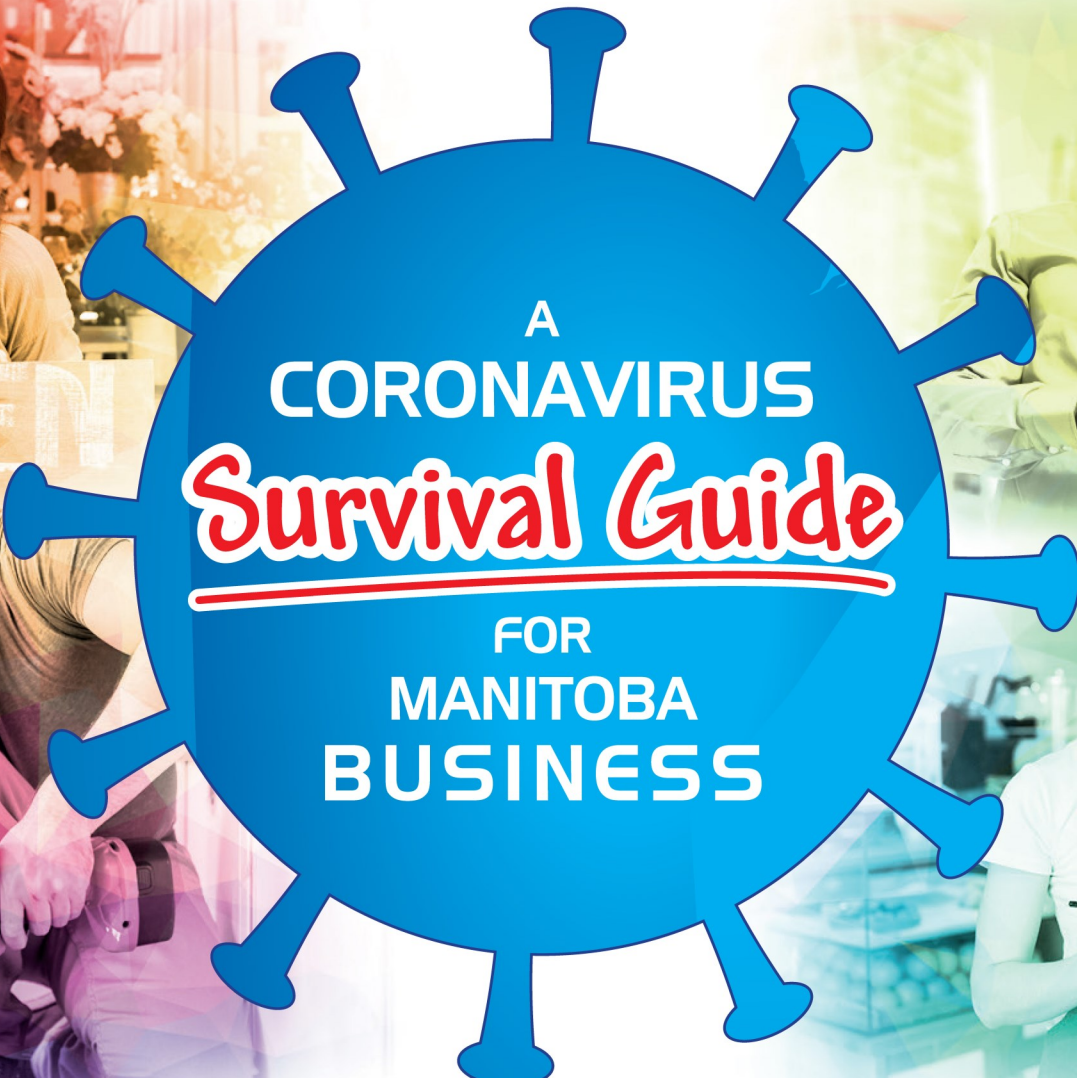


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A CORONAVIRUS *Survival Guide* FOR MANITOBA BUSINESS

**CANADA RECOVERY BENEFITS INCOME RELIEF PROGRAM
FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED AND INDIVIDUALS**

REFERENCE GUIDE

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CANADA RECOVERY BENEFITS

INCOME SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED AND INDIVIDUALS

REFERENCE GUIDE



The Government of Canada has implemented new programs to support Canadians who have lost all or part of their income due to COVID-19 and who are not eligible for Employment Insurance (EI). These programs replace the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB).

The **Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)**, the **Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB)**, and the **Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)** are three benefits designed to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 by enabling individual employees and the self-employed to access income support. These new benefits were rolled out after the close of the Canada Emergency Response benefit and will continue supporting Canadians through until fall 2021.

BASE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL 3 PROGRAMS:

You may be eligible for one of the Canada Recovery Benefits if you:

- Are not eligible for EI benefits
- Reside and were present in Canada
- Are at least 15 years old
- Have a valid Social Insurance Number (SIN)
- Have earned a minimum of at least \$5000 in 2019, in 2020, or the previous 12 months.

CANADA RECOVERY BENEFIT (CRB):

Purpose of the program: Provide income support in the case of a 50% or more income loss.

Who is eligible: In addition to the above base eligibility requirements, you may be eligible for CRB if you:

- Have had an average weekly income loss of at least 50% because of COVID-19.
- Are looking and available for work.

You are not eligible for CRB if you:

- Are eligible for Employment Insurance benefits
- Have voluntarily left or quit your job
- Failed to return to work when requested or failed to resume self-employment, if it was reasonable to do so, or declined a reasonable offer to work
- Received or applied for another benefit for the same eligibility period (e.g., CRSB, CRCB, short-term disability benefits, workers' compensation benefits, QPIP).

Program Benefits: \$500 per week for a maximum of 38 weeks (\$450 after taxes withheld)

How do I calculate the 50% income loss: The 50% income loss is based on your average weekly income from employment or self-employment in 2019, 2020, or the past 12 months. You must ensure that you meet this criterion for each period for which you are applying.

For example: If your total income for 2019 or the last 12 months was \$26,000:

1. Calculate the average weekly income by dividing the total income by 52 weeks.
 $\$26,000 \div 52 = \500
2. Divide the average weekly income by 50%
 $\$500 \div 2 = \250

According to this example, you would have to have a weekly salary of \$250 or less to be eligible for CRB.

To calculate self-employment income: your revenue minus any expenses incurred to earn the self-employment revenue and perform the same calculations.

CANADA RECOVERY BENEFITS

INCOME SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED AND INDIVIDUALS

REFERENCE GUIDE



Employment and/or self-employment income includes, among other things:

- tips you may earn while working
- non-eligible dividends
- honoraria (such as nominal amounts paid to emergency service volunteers)
- royalties (such as those paid to artists)

The CRA may ask you to provide the following items if you are or were self-employed:

- Invoice for services rendered that includes:
 - The service date
 - Who the service was for, and
 - The name of the individual or company
- Receipt of payment for the service or services provided (a statement of account or bill of sale showing a payment and the remaining balance owed)
- Documents showing income earned from a 'trade or business' as a sole proprietor, an independent contractor, or a partnership
- Any other document that will confirm you earned \$5,000 in employment or self-employment income

NOTE: You may earn employment or self-employment income while you receive the CRB. But to make sure the benefit reaches those who need it most, there is a difference in how much you can keep.

If you earn more than \$38,000 in the calendar year (excluding CRB payments), you will have to reimburse \$0.50 of the CRB for every dollar of net income you earned above \$38,000 on your income tax return.

You will not have to pay back more than your benefit amount for that year.

Any amount required to be reimbursed will be due at the same time as your income taxes.

CRB Program Benefits: \$500 per week for a maximum of 4 weeks (\$450 after taxes withheld)

NOTE: The government has announced proposed changes to the CRB eligibility criteria that may deny individuals who travelled internationally from claiming the CRB. The changes would apply to eligibility periods starting on or after January 3, 2021. [Click here](#) for more information.

For more information on the [Canada Recovery Benefit Program](#), [click here](#).

For answers to [Frequently Asked Questions](#), [click here](#).

CANADA RECOVERY SICKNESS BENEFIT (CRSB):

Purpose of the program: Provide income support for people who do not have paid sick leave.

Who is eligible: In addition to the base eligibility requirements, you may be eligible for CRSB if you:

- Are unable to work at least 50% of your scheduled work week because:
 - You are sick or may be sick with COVID-19
 - You are advised to self-isolate due to COVID-19
 - You have an underlying health condition that puts you at a greater risk of getting COVID-19
 - Are not receiving paid leave from your employer for the same period

You are not eligible for CRSB if you:

- Are eligible for Employment Insurance benefit
- Have voluntarily left or quit your job
- Received or applied for another benefit for the same eligibility period (e.g., CRB, CRCB, short-term disability benefits, workers' compensation benefits, QPIP)

CANADA RECOVERY BENEFITS

INCOME SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED AND INDIVIDUALS

REFERENCE GUIDE



CRSB Program Benefits: \$500 per week for a maximum of 4 weeks (\$450 after taxes withheld)

NOTE: The CRSB allows a worker to receive the benefit for a maximum of 4 weeks during the period September 27, 2020 to September 25, 2021. The weeks do not have to be consecutive.

Under CRSB, weeks are from Sunday to Saturday. You can apply for a period on the first Monday after the end of that said period.

For more information on the **Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit**, [click here](#).

For answers to **Frequently Asked Questions**, [click here](#).

CANADA RECOVERY CAREGIVING BENEFIT (CRCB):

Purpose of the program: Provide income support for people who cannot work because they need to care for a child or a family member

Who is eligible: In addition to the base eligibility requirements, you may be eligible for CRCB if:

- You are unable to work at least 50% of your scheduled work week because you are caring for a family member.
- You are caring for your child under 12 years old or a family member who needs supervised care because they are at home for one of the following reasons:
 - Their school, daycare, day program, or care facility is closed or unavailable to them due to COVID-19.
 - Their regular care services are unavailable due to COVID-19.
- The person under your care is:
 - Sick with COVID-19 or has symptoms of COVID-19.
 - At risk of serious health complications if they get COVID-19, as advised by a medical professional.
 - Self-isolating due to COVID-19
- You are not receiving paid leave from your employer for the same period.
- You are the only person in your household applying for the benefit for the week.

You are not eligible for CRCB if you:

- Are eligible for Employment Insurance benefits.
- Have voluntarily left or quit your job.
- Received or applied for another benefit for the same eligibility period (e.g., CRB, CRSB, short-term disability benefits, workers' compensation benefits, QPIP).

Program Benefits: \$500 per week for a maximum of 38 weeks per household (\$450 after taxes withheld).

NOTE: Each household can apply up to a maximum of 38 periods between September 27, 2020 and September 25, 2021. The 26 weeks do not need to be taken consecutively.

You are not eligible for CRCB if you:

- Are eligible for Employment Insurance benefits.
- Have voluntarily left or quit your job.
- Received or applied for another benefit for the same eligibility period (e.g., CRB, CRSB, short-term disability benefits, workers' compensation benefits, QPIP).

PROGRAM BENEFITS: \$500 per week for a maximum of 38 weeks per household

NOTE: Each household can apply up to a maximum of 38 periods between September 27, 2020 and September 25, 2021. The 38 weeks do not need to be taken consecutively.

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CANADA RECOVERY BENEFITS

INCOME SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED AND INDIVIDUALS

REFERENCE GUIDE



For more information on the **Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)**, [click here](#).
For answers to **Frequently Asked Questions** on the CRCB program, [click here](#).

HOW TO APPLY FOR CANADA RECOVERY BENEFITS:

APPLICATIONS: Applications for all three recovery programs can be made online through [CRA's My Account](#) or by calling 1-800-959-2019 or 1-800-959-2041.

Deadline: The deadline for all 3 recovery programs is 60 days after the end of the claim period.

CRITICAL ADDITIONAL CANADA RECOVERY BENEFITS PROGRAM INFORMATION:

NOTE: All three **Canada Recovery Benefit Programs** are **considered taxable income**.

The 10% tax withheld at source may not be all the tax you need to pay. When you complete your personal income tax return, you may need to pay more (or less), depending on how much income you earned.

The CRA will provide you with a T4A tax slip for any CRA-administered COVID-19 benefit amounts received. For more details: [COVID-19 benefit amounts on your T4A slip](#)

For more information on the **Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)**, [click here](#).

For more information on the **Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB)**, [click here](#).

For more information on the **Canada Recovery sickness Benefit**, [click here](#).

BUDGET 2021 PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES:

Extension of Canada Recovery Benefits: The 2021 federal budget proposes to extend the **Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)** by providing up to 12 additional weeks of income support to claimants who will begin exhausting their 38 weeks of CRB support on 19 June 2021.

The benefit payment will be equal to \$500 per week for the first four additional weeks and will then be reduced to \$300 per week for the remaining eight additional weeks.

All new CRB claimants after 17 July 2021 will receive the lower weekly rate of \$300 up until 25 September 2021.

In addition, the budget proposes to extend the **Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)** by an additional four weeks, up to a maximum of 42 weeks, at \$500 per week.

The government will also seek legislative authority to make further extensions, as necessary, to the CRB-related supports (including the CRCB and the **Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit**) and EI regular benefits up until 20 November 2021.

The information on this reference guide and on the Manitoba Business Matters website is based on rapidly-developing relief programs and legislative changes and is produced by Manitoba Business Matters as an information service to Manitoba businesses.

It is not intended to substitute professional advice.

These summaries will be updated as support programs and legislation continues to evolve.

For the most comprehensive and current information, please review the Government of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan [click here](#).



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