



COVID-19: GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL RELIEF PROGRAMS

The following table identifies all government programs and what they mean for credit unions and members.

GOVERNMENT PROGRAM + SUMMARY	WHAT THIS MEANS FOR CREDIT UNIONS & MEMBERS	HOW TO ACCESS THE PROGRAM/FUNDING
<i>FEDERAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS</i>		
<u>Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)</u> CRB gives income support to employed and self-employed individuals who are directly affected by COVID-19 and are not entitled to Employment Insurance (EI) benefits. The CRB is administered by the Canada Revenue Agency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Eligible members can receive \$1000 (\$900 after taxes withheld) for a two-week period- If the situation continues past 2 weeks, members will need to re-apply, for a maximum of 19 eligibility periods between Sept. 27, 2020 – Sept. 25, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Eligibility criteria and information on how to apply can be found here- CRB will cut down to \$300/ week beginning in July and CRA will withhold 20% on this payment
<u>Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB)</u> CRSB gives income support to employed and self-employed individuals who are unable to work because they are sick or need to self-isolate due to COVID-19, or have an underlying health condition that puts them at greater risk of getting COVID-19. The CRSB is administered by CRA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Eligible members can receive \$500 or (\$450 after taxes withheld) for a 1-week period- If the situation continues past 1 week, member will need to re-apply up to a total of 4 weeks between Sept. 27, 2020 – Sept. 25, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Eligibility criteria and information on how to apply can be found here

<p><u>Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)</u> CRCB gives income support to employed and self-employed individuals who are unable to work because they must care for their child under 12 years old or a family member who needs supervised care.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eligible member households can receive \$500 (\$450 after taxes withheld) for each 1-week period - If the situation continues past 1 week, member will need to re-apply. Each household may apply up to a total of 38 weeks between Sept. 27, 2020 – Sept. 25, 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eligibility criteria and information on how to apply can be found here
<p><u>Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS)</u> Businesses, eligible charities, and non-profits that experience a revenue drop would be eligible to claim a subsidy on eligible expenses.</p> <p><i>Lockdown Support Subsidy</i> In addition to the rent subsidy rate, organizations affected by a public health lockdown may be eligible to receive a CERS top-up (lockdown support) at a rate of 25%.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subsidy on eligible expenses is on a sliding scale up to a maximum of 65% of eligible expense, including rent and interest on commercial mortgages - Subsidy structure is further explained here, including further information on the lockdown support top-up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subsidy is available retroactive from September 27, 2020 - Provides benefits directly to qualifying renters and property owners, without requiring the participation of landlords - Subsidy will gradually decrease beginning Jul. 4, 2021 - Extended to Sept. 25, 2021
<p><u>Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)</u> Business employers of all sizes who have seen a drop in revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic, may be eligible for a subsidy to cover part of their employee wages, retroactive to March 15, 2020. Subsidy can be used to re-hire workers, help prevent further job losses, and ease businesses back into normal operations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All business owner members should be aware of the temporary wage subsidy - Benefit is backdated to March 15 - Also includes 100% refund for certain employer-paid contributions to EI, CPP for eligible employees - For an estimate of subsidy amounts, business owners can refer to this web page 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be eligible, businesses must have suffered a decline in eligible revenue due to COVID-19 – see further details here - There are 3 ways to apply - Subsidy will gradually decrease beginning Jul. 4, 2021 - Extended to Sept. 25, 2021 - If you are eligible for both CEWS and CRHP, apply for whichever subsidy gives you the higher amount
<p><u>Canada Recovery Hiring Program (CRHP)</u> A new payroll subsidy program for eligible employers that continue to experience qualifying declines in revenues relative to before the pandemic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The subsidy provides eligible employers with a subsidy of up to 50% of their added payroll expenses, compared with a baseline period of Mar. 14 – Apr. 10 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eligible employers can claim the higher of this subsidy or CEWS, not both - Paid to employees between Jun. 6, 2021 and Nov. 20, 2021

<p><u>Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP)</u> BCAP allows the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) and Export Development Canada (EDC) to provide more than \$65B of additional support to businesses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support is largely targeted to small and medium sized enterprises (SME) - Intended to be administered by approved Financial Institutions (FI) - Program includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SME Loan and Guarantee Program (backed by EDC) - SME Co-Lending Program (backed by BDC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited additional information can be found on the Government of Canada website, as well as the EDC website and BDC website. - Alberta credit unions are able to access the EDC Guarantee program through Alberta Central - Program extended to the end of 2021
<p><u>Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility (LEEFF)</u> Program provides bridge financing to Canada’s largest employers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LEEFF will be delivered by the Canada Development Investment Corporation (CDEV), in cooperation with Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) and the Department of Finance - Open to large for-profit businesses – with the exception of those in the financial sector – as well as certain not-for-profit businesses with annual revenues of \$300M or higher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To qualify, businesses must be seeking financing of about \$60M or more, have significant operations or workforce in Canada, and not be involved in active insolvency proceedings - Eligible business can find more information and apply here
<p><u>Increasing Old Age Security (OAS)</u> Several adjustments will be made to existing OAS payments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OAS pensioners 75+ years of age receive a one-time taxable grant payment of \$500, to arrive during the week of Aug. 16, 2021 - In July 2021, OAS benefits will automatically increase 1.3% - A permanent increase of 10% to the OAS pension, is also to be implemented in July 2022 for seniors aged 75 and over 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No action is required by seniors, who will automatically receive the payment if they are eligible
<p><u>Highly Affected Sectors Credit Availability Program (HASCAP)</u> Offers 100% government-guaranteed financing for heavily impacted small and medium-sized businesses. The program is offered in conjunction between GoC and EDC, and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Despite its name, the program is not sector-specific; no sector criteria for applicants, rather a 50% revenue decrease test - Loan amounts ranging from \$25K to \$1 million 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Like CEBA, funding will be accessed through a member’s primary financial institutions; if a member’s primary FI is not offering HASCAP, they may access the program through another FI who is - Available until the end of 2021

<p>administered through eligible financial institutions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4% interest rate and repayment term up to 10 years; up to 12-month postponement of principal payments at start of loan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For more info on eligibility criteria, visit BDC's website
<p><u>Near-term credit to farmers and the agri-food sector</u> Farm Credit Canada (FCC) has received an enhancement to its capital base that will allow for an additional \$5 billion in lending capacity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members in the farming and agri-food sector will benefit from the availability of increased near-term credit through FCC as well as the option for payment deferrals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further details of this support measure can be found on the FCC website
<p><u>Regional Relief and Recovery Fund</u> Federal government providing nearly \$2B in support to affected business and communities. The fund will help to mitigate the financial pressures experienced by businesses, and support projects by businesses, organizations and communities to prepare for a successful recover. Initiative is implemented by 6 regional development agencies; Ottawa is encouraging the agencies to use their regional expertise to disburse funds to sectors and businesses that need it most.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entrepreneurs who can't access other federal programs can apply through regional development agencies for interest-free loans of up to \$60,000 that will be one-quarter forgivable if the business meets repayment terms, (similar to CEBA) - Larger loans will also be available for some businesses, but not necessarily forgivable - Grants will be available to rural businesses, women-owned businesses, not-for-profits, all other SMEs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Western Economic Diversification Canada's Regional Relief and Recovery Fund, is the regional agency helping western Canadian businesses
<p><u>Canada Small Business Financing Program</u> Program makes it easier for small businesses to get loans from financial institutions by sharing the risk with lenders. Offered in partnership between financial institutions and the federal government through Innovation Science and Economic Development Canada. Enhancements to this program recently announced include increasing maximum loan amounts, extending loan coverage periods, expanding borrower eligibility, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Up to a maximum of \$1M for any one borrower - Loans can be used to finance the following costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purchase/ improvement of land/ buildings for commercial purposes - Purchase/ improvement of new/ used equipment - Renovations to a leased property by a tenant - No more than \$350K can be used for purchasing leasehold improvements or improving leased property and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Small businesses or start-ups operating for profit, with gross annual revenues of \$10 million or less are eligible - Farming businesses are not eligible - Financial institutions are delivering the program and are solely responsible for approving the loan - Interest rate and other terms are determined by financial institution

	purchasing or improving new or used equipment	
<p><u>Livestock Tax Deferral</u> <i>NEW</i></p> <p>Allows beef producers who are forced to sell a significant amount of their breeding herd due to drought conditions to offset the resulting revenues with the costs to replace the herd.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For prescribed drought regions of Alberta - Allows livestock producers in these regions who reduced their breeding herds by at least 15% due to drought or flooding, to defer a portion of their 2021 income from sales until the 2022 tax year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eligible regions based on weather, climate and production data. The criteria is forage shortfalls of 50% or more caused by drought or excess moisture - GoC will continue adding other regions throughout the year as additional information is collected
<i>PROVINCIAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS</i>		
<p><u>Alberta Jobs Now Program</u></p> <p>Employers are able to apply for a grant that covers 25% of an employee's salary for a 52-week period up to a max of \$25K/ employee.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The grant can be used to cover salary or training costs for up to 20 new employees - Employers who hire persons with disabilities will receive a grant 1.5 times higher - Funding details are listed here 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First intake: May 20 – Aug. 31, 2021 - A second intake will open on Sept. 15 and close on Dec. 31 - To be eligible, private sector business or non-profit organizations must use the funding to hire unemployed Albertans in a new or vacant position - The new hire must reside and work in Alberta and must not have worked for the employer within the past 90 days
<p><u>Temporary Rent Assistance Benefit</u></p> <p>Temporary benefit provides a subsidy for working households with low income or those between jobs. Support is available for up to two years to help tenants afford their rent while they stabilize or improve their situation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Temporary Rent Assistance Benefit will be paid directly to tenants and is available in Calgary, Edmonton, Fort McMurray, Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Red Deer - Household size and location will determine the benefit amount 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Households may be eligible if they are below the local income thresholds and are currently employed or have been employed in the last 24 months and are not receiving social assistance - Households are prioritized on a first-come, first-served basis