

Financial Supports for Canadian Businesses & more

Program	Description	Who is Eligible	Where to apply/get up to date information	FAQ/Comments
Access to Capital				
Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)	<p>Provides up to \$25B to eligible financial institutions so they can provide interest-free loans to small businesses of up to \$40,000. These loans—guaranteed and funded by the Government of Canada—will ensure that small businesses have access to the capital they need to cover their operating costs, at a 0% interest rate.</p> <p>If the loan is completely paid off by Dec. 31, 2022, a quarter of the loan will be forgiven.</p>	Small Businesses and not-for-profits with a 2019 payroll of between \$20,000-\$1.5 million	<p>Contact your primary financial institution to apply. For more information:</p> <p>https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/03/additional-support-for-canadian-businesses-from-the-economic-impact-of-covid-19.html#_New_Loan_Programs</p> <p>https://ceba-cuec.ca/</p>	<p>Tuesday May 19th: Eligibility criteria expanded</p> <p>Applicants with payroll lower than \$20,000 would need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A business operating account at a participating financial institution • A CRA business number and have filed 2018 or 2019 tax return • Eligible non-deferrable expenses b/w \$40,000 & 1.5m. Eligible non-deferrable expenses could include costs such as rent, property taxes, utilities & insurance
Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF)	\$39.4 million in financial support to small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that are unable to access other federal COVID-19 relief measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established prior to March 1, 2020 • Impacted adversely by pandemic 	Contact your local Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC)	<p>Please note: For loans greater than \$40,000 visit the FedDev ON: http://www.feddevontario.gc.ca/eic/site/723.nsf/eng/02583.html?OpenDocument</p>

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	Interest free loans of up to \$40,000 per business.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viable and not experiencing liquidity or other financial difficulties prior to March 2020 • Have attempted to access other federal relief supports and were ineligible, rejected or require funding for expenses in excess of support already received with priority given to applicants who were ineligible or rejected from other federal relief supports 		
Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP) BDC Co-Lending Program	<p>The program will help Canada's financial institutions provide credit and liquidity options, backed by BDC and EDC, that a range of Canadian businesses need.</p> <p>To exclusively fund operational cash flow needs (including regularly scheduled principal and interest payments on existing debt)</p>	To qualify, Borrowers must have been financially viable, in good standing as of March 1, 2020	Contact your primary financial institution to apply.	https://www.bdc.ca/en/documents/special-support/BCAP-program-overview-external.pdf
Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP)	The program will help Canada's financial institutions provide credit and liquidity	To qualify, Borrowers must have been financially viable, in good standing as of March 1, 2020	Contact your primary financial institution to apply.	https://www.bdc.ca/en/documents/special-support/BCAP-program-overview-external.pdf

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EDC BCAP Guarantee	options, backed by BDC and EDC, that a range of Canadian businesses need. To finance operations and liquidity needs of the business only.			
Community Futures Program	The Government of Canada is providing \$287 million to the Community Futures Program to support rural businesses and communities, including through access to capital.	Rural businesses and communities	Contact your local Community Futures Development Corporation https://communityfuturescanada.ca/	
Support for Indigenous Businesses	The Government of Canada is providing \$306.8 million to Aboriginal Financial Institutions to provide interest-free loans and non-repayable contributions to help small and medium-sized Indigenous businesses unable to access the government's existing COVID-19 support measures	Indigenous-owned businesses	https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/04/18/prime-minister-announces-support-indigenous-businesses https://nacca.ca/covid-19/	
Futurpreneur	The Government of Canada is injecting \$20.1 million through Futurpreneur Canada to support ongoing lending to young entrepreneurs.	Entrepreneurs aged 18-39	https://www.futurpreneur.ca/en/press-media/statement-futurpreneur-applauds-the-government-of-canadas	

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Regional Development Agencies	The Government of Canada is providing \$675 million to Regional Development Agencies to provide equivalent bridge financing support to businesses unable to access the government's broader support measures.	Businesses unable to access the government's other support measures	https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/icgc.nsf/eng/07677.html	
Resilient Communities Fund – Ontario Trillium Foundation	This is a one-time fund to support the non-profit sector recover and rebuild from the impacts emerging from COVID-19 so they can effectively meet the needs of communities across Ontario. This fund is providing a flexible range of activities over two deadlines to address the diverse needs of organizations and to support them where they are at in their recovery and rebuilding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A charitable or not-for-profit organization • A First Nation or a First Nation library • A Metis, Inuit or other Indigenous community • Municipalities (population less than 20,000) • A collaboration of two or more organizations, where the lead organization meets OTF eligibility criteria 	https://otf.ca/resilient-communities-fund	<p>Request amount: From \$5,000 to \$150,000</p> <p>Grant term: up to 1 year</p> <p>Application Deadlines*: September 2, 2020 at 5 pm ET. and December 2, 2020 at 5 pm ET.</p>
Other Liquidity Support Measures				
Canada Emergency Commercial Rent	This program will provide forgivable loans to qualifying commercial property owners to cover 50 per cent of three monthly rent payments that are payable by eligible small	Commercial property Owners of small business, non-profit and	https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/finance-and-investing/covid19-cecra-small-business	Announced by Federal Gov't but administered through the Canadian Mortgage & Housing Corporation (CMHC)

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Assistance (CECRA)	business tenants who are experiencing financial hardship during April, May, and June. The loans will be forgiven if the mortgaged property owner agrees to reduce the eligible small business tenants' rent by at least 75 per cent for the three corresponding months under a rent forgiveness agreement, which will include a term not to evict the tenant while the agreement is in place. The small business tenant would cover the remainder, up to 25 per cent of the rent. (25% covered by tenant, 25% covered by landlord & 50% covered by government)	charity tenants paying less than \$50,000 per month in rent and having experienced at least a 70 per cent drop in pre-COVID-19 revenues.		Commercial properties with at least 30% commercial use
Income Tax Deferrals	The Canada Revenue Agency has deferred all payment of any income tax amounts owing on or after Mar. 18 and before Sept. 2020 until after Aug. 31, 2020. No interest or penalties will accumulate on these amounts during this period. The filing date for the 2019 tax year has also been extended until June 1, 2020.	All businesses	https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-filing-payment-dates.html	
HST/GST Remittances and	The Canada Revenue Agency and Canada Border Services Agency are permitting businesses to defer all HST/GST	All businesses	https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-filing-payment-dates.html	

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Customs Duty Deferrals	remittances as well as customs duty owing on their imports until June 30, 2020.		19-update/covid-19-filing-payment-dates.html	
Avoiding or Minimizing the Impact from Layoffs				
Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)	Provides \$2,000 a month for up to four months for individuals who have lost all their income as the result of COVID-19. Employees who are furloughed can also receive the Benefit.	Individuals residing in Canada who have lost employment income as the result of COVID-19 or who are eligible for EI regular or sickness benefits and who had income of at least \$5,000 in 2019 or in the 12 months prior to the date of their application.	https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application.html	NEW - FAQ https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application/questions.html First period 14 days Subsequent period 28 days
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)	Qualifying businesses can receive up to 75% in a wage subsidy, for up to three months, retroactive to March 15, 2020. The subsidy will provide up to \$847 per week per employee. As well, employers eligible for the CEWS will be entitled to receive a 100-per-cent refund for certain employer-paid contributions to Employment Insurance, the Canada Pension Plan, the Quebec Pension Plan, and the Quebec Parental Insurance	Businesses that have experienced a reduction in revenue of 15% in the month of March and 30% in the months of April and May as the result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The revenue reduction test can be applied to year-over-year monthly revenue in 2019, or the average of revenue for January and February 2020. Cash or	Applications made through My CRA Business Account https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/subsidy/emergency-wage-subsidy.html August deadline extended – to December	Complete FAQ including CEWS calculator https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/subsidy/emergency-wage-subsidy/cews-frequently-asked-questions.html#h_4 CEWS and CERB

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	<p>Plan for remuneration paid to furloughed employees in a period where the employer is eligible for the CEWS.</p>	<p>accrual accounting may be used but must be consistent each time. Applications must be filed before Oct 2020.</p>		<p>“As part of the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, the CRA will be comparing employers’ payroll records with information provided by CERB claimants to ensure that individuals who have returned to work and who have therefore become ineligible for the CERB repay those amounts”.</p> <p>Received within 10 business days from application date</p> <p>Note: If you qualify for one period, then you automatically qualify for the following period</p>
<p>Work-Sharing Program</p>	<p>The program provides Employment Insurance (EI) benefits to top off the wages (based on an EI formula) to eligible employees who agree to reduce their normal working hours and share the available work while their employer recovers. As part of the Government of Canada’s COVID-19 response, the maximum length of a work-sharing agreement has been</p>	<p>Year-round businesses that have been in business in Canada for at least one year.</p>	<p>https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/work-sharing.html</p>	

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	<p>doubled from 38 to 76 weeks and processing time has been reduced from 30 days to 10 days. Employees on a Work-Sharing agreement must agree to a reduced schedule of work and to share the available work over a specified period of time.</p>			
<p>10% Temporary Wage Subsidy</p>	<p>Small businesses that do not qualify for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy may be eligible for the 10% Temporary Wage Subsidy, which covers employee wages up to a maximum of \$1,375 per employee and up to \$25,000 per employer. Employers can claim this subsidy immediately by withholding a portion of payroll tax remittances.</p>	<p>All legal small and medium-sized enterprises</p>	<p>https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/frequently-asked-questions-wage-subsidy-small-businesses.html</p>	
<p>NRC IRAP Innovation Assistance Program</p>	<p>12-week wage subsidy for SMEs pursuing technology-driven innovation who have been unable to secure funding under the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy. Applications are open from April 22 to April 29, inclusive.</p>	<p>Businesses that are ineligible for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy with fewer than 500 employees that are developing and commercializing innovative, technology-driven new or improved products, services or processes in Canada</p>	<p>https://nrc.canada.ca/en/support-technology-innovation/nrc-irap-innovation-assistance-program-iap?ut</p>	

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E-Commerce Initiative for Agri-Food Sector	<p>The Ontario and federal governments are jointly investing up to \$2.5 million to help eligible Ontario agriculture, agri-food, and agri-products businesses establish online e-business and marketing activities. The program is being administered by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA). Up to \$5,000 is available for smaller projects and up to \$75,000 is available for businesses undertaking “high-impact” projects (as defined by OMAFRA).</p>	<p>Stream 1 is suited to smaller producers who are not currently online. Up to \$5,000 will be awarded per project</p> <p>Stream 2 is aimed at larger projects. “Suggested minimum project size under this stream is at least \$15,000.” The cap is \$75,000</p>	<p>http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/cap/ebusiness.htm</p>	<p>Can you apply to both programs? Yes. Applicants may be approved for one project under each stream...</p> <p>Applicants cannot submit the same project under both streams Once applicant receives funding under one of the streams, they’re no longer eligible to submit further projects under that particular stream.</p> <p>All costs incurred under either stream must be on or after April 24th 2020.</p> <p>Stream 1: Project must be implemented and completed no later than Nov. 30th 2020.</p> <p>Stream 2: Projects must be implemented and completed no later than Sept. 30th 2022.</p>

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Provincial Supports				
Operations Implementation Program (OIP)	Designed to assist Bruce/Grey/Simcoe tourism operators in their stabilization and recovery efforts from the effects of COVID-19 with social media marketing to promote their operations as part of RTO7's COVID-19 Business Recovery Plan 2020/2021.	The term tourism operator is defined as a consumer facing organization that has direct access to the consumer and relies on that consumer for their income.	https://rto7.ca/Public/Programs/Operations-Implementation-Program	Stakeholders must demonstrate the following: You have an active Facebook PAGE and are actively engaged on the platform (i.e. post at a regular frequency and respond to comments within 24 hours prior to COVID-19) You must have current collateral (produced in the last 3 years); high resolution images and/or video that can be used in a social media campaign Your website must be up to date and reflect your current offerings, hours and contact information You must have a product currently for sale or be ready to open to the public once the state of emergency restrictions is lifted.
RTO7 PPE COVID-19 Funds	RTO7 will reimburse a maximum of \$1,000 towards your purchase of PPE (defined as PPE, costs incurred to adhere to social	Tourism Operators – has direct access to tourists and relies on	https://rto7.ca/	

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	distancing, touchless payments, new technology, increased cleaning, sanitization, etc.), retroactive to April 1, 2020	tourists for revenue (approx.. 10% of revenue is from tourists)		
Relief: Electricity and Employer Health Tax Exemption	Ontario is setting the electricity prices for residential, farm and small business time-of-use customers at the lowest rate, 24 hours a day for 45 days. The province is also providing a temporary increase to the Employer Health Tax (EHT) exemption from \$490,000 to \$1 million for 2020. With this plan, more than 90% of private-sector employers would not pay EHT in 2020.	All businesses	https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/03/ontario-providing-electricity-relief-to-families-small-businesses-and-farms-during-covid-19.html https://budget.ontario.ca/2020/marchupdate/action-plan.html#section-3	
Deferrals: Tax and Premiums	From April 1 to August 31, the Province will not apply any penalty or interest on any late-filed returns or incomplete or late tax payments under the majority of provincially administered taxes. Additionally, all employers covered by the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board will be able to defer premium payments for six months.	All businesses	https://budget.ontario.ca/2020/marchupdate/relief-measures.html https://news.ontario.ca/mol/en/2020/03/ontario-enabling-financial-relief-for-businesses-1.html	

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Additional Supports				
Virtual Action Centre	This virtual job training resource will provide up to 7,000 unemployed workers in the hospitality sector with access to a wide range of services and supports online and over the phone,	In partnership with UNITE HERE Local 75	https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/05/ontario-helps-people-impacted-by-covid-19-get-back-to-work.html	•
Ontario Tools Grant	The government is providing an Ontario Tools Grant of \$2.5 million in 2020-21 and \$7.5 million in 2021-22 and ongoing. This will help new eligible apprentices purchase the equipment they need to start their careers.	To be eligible for the new grant, apprentices must have: completed level 1 training on or after April 1, 2020; an active registered training agreement; and been registered as an apprentice for at least 12 months.	https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/05/ontario-helps-people-impacted-by-covid-19-get-back-to-work.html	•
Canada Emergency Student Benefit	Benefit will provide eligible students with \$1,250/month or \$2,000/month for eligible students with dependents or disabilities. Benefit available from May to August 2020	Post-Secondary students & recent graduates	https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/04/support-for-students-and-recent-graduates-impacted-by-covid-19.html	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-secondary students currently enrolled in a program leading to degree, diploma or certificate • High School students who have applied for and will be starting post-secondary

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				<p>education in coming months (before Feb. 1st 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent graduates who graduated no earlier than Dec. 2019 and are unable to find work due to COVID19 • Canadian students studying abroad and meet one of above criteria • Good summary by CLEO!
Canada Students Service Grant	For students who choose to do national service and serve their communities, CSSG will provide up to \$5,000 for their education in the fall.			More information will posted on the “I want to help” platform
ShopHERE	A partnership between Digital Mainstreet and Google, the ShopHERE program assists small businesses and artists build a digital presence. Though this program businesses are offered no cost, one on one assistance to design, build and launch their online store. Businesses also receive free training to support their online store on a variety of topics including digital marketing, shipping and inventory management.	Any registered business, registered non-profit organization or artist Businesses with fewer than ten employees or fewer than 25 employees if a restaurant or bar Franchises are not eligible	http://www.digitalmainstreet.ca/shophere	

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COVID-19 Energy Assistance Program CEAP-SB	The COVID-19 Energy Assistance Program for Small Business (CEAP-SB) provides a one time, on-bill credit to eligible small business and registered charity customers to help them catch up on their energy bills and resume regular payments.	Small Businesses & Charities	visit www.oeb.ca/ceap	CEAP-SB funding is limited, with utilities and USMPs expected to process applications in the order in which they are received.

CEWS chart for Claim Periods

Claim Period	Minimum Required Revenue Decline		Reference Period used to Measure Eligibility
1. March 15 – April 11	March 2020	15%	March 2019 or average for January & February 2020
2. April 12 – May 9	April 2020	30%	April 2019 or average for January & February 2020 *
3. May 10 – June 6	May 2020	30%	May 2019 or average for January & February 2020 *
4. June 7 – July 4		30%	
5. July 5 – August 1		No minimum revenue drop	
6. Aug 2 – Aug 29			
7. Aug 30 – Sept 26			
8. Sept 27 – Oct 24			
9. Oct 25 – Nov 21			

* Note: If you qualify for one period, then you automatically qualify for the following period

For claim periods 1 to 4 (March 15 to July 4, 2020):

- you must meet a minimum of 15% (period 1) or 30% (periods 2 to 4) revenue drop to qualify for the subsidy
- if you qualify for a period, you automatically qualify for the following period

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- the subsidy rate is 75% of eligible employees' remuneration, up to a maximum of \$847/week per eligible employee
- employees who were unpaid for 14 or more consecutive days in the period can't be included in your calculation

Changes to CEWS for claim periods 5 to 9 (July 5 to November 21, 2020)

- the subsidy rate varies, depending on how much your revenue dropped
- if your revenue drop was less than 30% you can still qualify, and keep getting the subsidy as employees return to work and your revenue recovers
- employers who were hardest hit over a period of three months get a higher amount
- employees who were unpaid for 14 or more days can now be included in your calculation
- use the current period's revenue drop or the previous period's, whichever works in your favour
 - for periods 5 and 6, if your revenue dropped at least 30%, your subsidy rate will be at least 75%
- even if your revenue has not dropped for the claim period, you can still qualify if your average revenue over the previous three months dropped more than 50%
- the maximum base subsidy rate is 60% in claim periods 5 and 6
- the maximum base subsidy rate will begin to decline in claim period 7, gradually reducing to 20% in period 9