

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

The new Canada Emergency Response Benefit is a financial program available to Canadians to mitigate economic difficulties brought on by the COVID 19 Pandemic. The benefit consists of \$500/week for up to 16 weeks, which will be paid as a single payment of \$2,000 every month.

Am I Eligible?

You are, if you:

- have earned at least \$5,000 in 2019 or in the past 12 months – this can include receiving maternity, parental or adoption benefits through Employment Insurance (EI)
- have stopped working because of COVID 19 and have not voluntarily quit your job
- must stay home without pay to care for your children
- have been without work or are on unpaid leave because of COVID 19
- earn income - up to \$1,000 per month - while collecting the CERB
- are a seasonal worker who has exhausted their EI regular benefits and are unable to undertake regular seasonal work because of COVID-19
- have recently exhausted their EI regular benefits and are unable to find a job because of COVID-19.

What is the qualifying period?

- CERB will be available to Canadians until Saturday, October 3
- The benefit will provide qualifying applicants backpay up to Sunday, March 15
- Any applications to Employment Insurance made after Sunday, March 15 will automatically be processed through CERB
- If you do not currently meet the criteria but circumstances change in the future, you are able to apply for CERB until Saturday, October 3

How Do I Apply?

- You can begin applying on Monday, April 6 through your [CRA My Account](#)
 - If you do not have a CRA account, you can apply through your [My Service Canada Account](#) or over the phone by calling the automated service **1-800-959-2019**
 - In order to prevent overwhelming the system, CRA has released a schedule detailing what day to apply based on your birth month. Find the schedule [here](#).
 - You do not need to provide any documents at the time of applying aside from your personal contact information and Social Insurance Number. You may be asked to provide documents to confirm your eligibility in the future.

How can a Calgary Foothills PCN Community Social Worker Help?

- Our Community Social Workers can provide details on how the CERB program can help you based on your individual circumstances. They can also walk you and your family through the application process.
- You can request an initial phone appointment by:
 - Talking to your family doctor
 - Calling 1-855-792-3726 or 587-774-9736



Your Health, Your Team, Your Community

For more information on eligibility requirements, qualifying periods or how to apply, please visit:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application.html>