

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 is \$500/week for up to 16 weeks.

Am I Eligible?

You are, if you:

- have received no income for 14 consecutive days in each four-week period of the qualifying four months
- 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
- have stopped working because of COVID 19 and have not voluntarily quit your job
- have been without work or are on unpaid leave because of COVID 19

*Eligibility periods are fixed in four-week periods. If your situation continues, you can re-apply for CERB for multiple 4-week periods, to a maximum of 16 weeks (4 periods).

What time period does it cover?

- CERB will be available to Canadians until Saturday, October 3, 2020
- The benefit will provide qualifying applicants pay as far back as 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?

- As of Monday, April 6, you apply 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

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

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/apply-for-cerb-with-cra.html>