



USW Guide to Benefits During COVID-19 ALBERTA

● LAID OFF DUE TO WORKPLACE CLOSURE?

Apply for Employment Insurance (EI) regular benefits.

- Payment is 55% of average insurable weekly earnings
 - Maxes out at \$573 per week.
 - Paid for 14-45 weeks based on unemployment rate in your region.
- To be eligible, you will need to have worked the following number of hours in the last 52 weeks:
 - 630 hours in Calgary, Edmonton, and Southern Alberta
 - 490 hours in Northern Alberta.
- You will need a Record of Employment (ROE) saying you have been laid off from your employer.
- There is a one week waiting period after you are approved, you will not be paid that week.
- You do not qualify if you are unemployed because you are directly participating in a strike.
- You have to apply online. You can do so here: canada.ca/en/services/benefits/privacy-notice

● UNABLE TO WORK DUE TO SELF -QUARANTINE?

Apply for EI sickness benefits.

- Payment is 55% of average insurable weekly earnings
 - Maxes out at \$573 per week.
 - Paid for 15 weeks.
- You need to have worked 600 hours in the last 52 weeks.
- You do not need to wait for one week for this benefit. It is paid in the first week of the approved claim.
- No medical note or ROE needed for quarantine claims.
- A yet to be established dedicated toll-free number will be set up for these applications.
- Apply online here: canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-sickness/apply

● LAID OFF BUT INELIGIBLE FOR EI?

● SELF- QUARANTINED AND INELIGIBLE FOR EI?

● UNABLE TO WORK DUE TO SCHOOL CLOSURE?

● STILL EMPLOYED BUT NOT RECEIVING INCOME BECAUSE OF WORK DISRUPTIONS?

Apply for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB).

- \$2,000 taxable payment per month.
- Up to four months.
- Applies to wage earners, as well as contract workers who are not otherwise eligible for EI.
- If you have already applied for EI but your application has not been processed you do not need to re-apply.
- The portal for accessing the CERB should be available in early April.
- Benefits should begin within 10 days of application.

● IS THE PROVINCE DOING ANYTHING?

Apply for the Emergency Care Benefit.

- One-time payment of \$1,146 for adults who are not getting another source of pay (i.e., EI) and who must self-isolate. Must also:
 - Have recently returned from outside of Canada.
 - Close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19
 - Have been asked to by a health-care professional.
 - The government has announced 14 days unpaid job-protected leave.