



USW Guide to Benefits During COVID-19

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

● 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:
 - Yellowknife: 700 hours
 - rest of NWT: 420 hours
- 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 must apply online. You can do so [here](#).

● 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 TERRITORY DOING ANYTHING?

- Funding to the income assistance program in the Northwest Territories is being increased, gov.nt.ca/en/newsroom/northwest-territories-covid-19-economic-relief the territory announced March 20.