

### English version \*\*\* La version française suit \*\*\*

# Apply now for the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit and the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit!

Many people are still being impacted by COVID-19 and require temporary income support. To ensure that Canadians continue to have the help they need, the Government of Canada has introduced three new benefits, delivered by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA): the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB), the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB), and the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB).

Today, the CRA opened the application process for the CRSB and CRCB. Applications for the CRB will open on October 12, 2020.

### Get to know the recovery benefits

CRA's new <u>CRSB</u>, <u>CRCB</u> and <u>CRB</u> web pages provide extensive information about these benefits including eligibility requirements, how to apply, and eligibility period dates.

Recognizing that many Canadians continue to face difficult times, the CRA is providing a simple and efficient application process similar to the one that millions of Canadians relied on to access Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) payments.

To ensure that the recovery benefits provide more targeted support for those people who continue to need it, the application process includes new elements, such as:

- shorter eligibility periods of one week for the CRSB and CRCB and two weeks for the CRB;
- retroactive periods, meaning that people will be required to apply after the period has ended;
- a 10% tax withholding at source; and

• a three-to-five day window to receive payments for applications made by direct deposit, and a 10-12 day window by cheque by mail.

The Government is committed to having safeguards in place to protect Canadians from fraud and non-compliance. To this end, the CRA is taking steps to implement additional verification and security measures up-front, to help ensure that we deliver benefit payments only to people who are entitled to receive them.

In some cases, we will ask people to provide us with additional information, such as record of employment, recent pay slips, or invoice for services rendered, so that we can verify their eligibility before we process their application. For example, if our records do not show that an applicant has earned the minimum amount of \$5000 as required to be eligible, we may ask the applicant to provide documentation to support their claim. As with the CERB, people who have received benefit payments but are later found to be ineligible will be required to repay the amounts.

# Apply now!

Eligible people can now apply for the CRSB and CRCB through CRA's My Account or the automated toll-free telephone line at 1-800-959-2019 or 1-800-959-2041. To apply for these benefits, we encourage Canadians to sign up for CRA's My Account, ensure that personal information with the CRA is up-to-date, and register for direct deposit. People should also file a 2019 tax return, if they haven't done so yet, as this will reduce the likelihood that we need to request additional information before we can process their application.

As new recovery benefits will provide Canadians with the support they need, the Government of Canada will continue to put Canadians first.

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