



Apply for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) with CRA

The CERB supports Canadians by providing financial support to employed and self-employed Canadians who are directly affected by COVID-19.

It provides a payment of \$2,000 for a 4-week period (the same as \$500 a week) for up to 16 weeks.

After you apply, you should get your payment in 3 business days if you signed up for direct deposit. If you haven't, you should get it in about 10 business days.

Who can apply

To be eligible, you must meet the following requirements:

- You did not apply for, nor receive, CERB or EI benefits from Service Canada for the same eligibility period
- You did not quit your job voluntarily
- You reside in Canada
- You are 15 years old or more when you apply
- You earned a minimum of \$5,000 (before taxes) income in the last 12 months or in 2019 from one or more of the following sources:
 - o employment income
 - o self-employment income
 - o provincial or federal benefits related to maternity or paternity leave

AND

- You stopped or will stop working due to COVID-19, and:
 - o **You are applying for the first time**
For at least 14 days in a row during the 4-week payment period, you do not expect to receive more than \$1,000 (before taxes) from employment and self-employment income
 - o **You are re-applying for another period**
You do not expect your situation to change during this 4-week period and you do not expect to receive more than \$1,000 (before taxes) from employment and self-employment income

OR

- o **You received regular EI benefits for at least 1 week since December 29, 2019**
You are no longer eligible for EI benefits



You cannot apply for CERB with CRA if you already applied through Service Canada.

If you have already applied for Employment Insurance (EI) or for the CERB through Service Canada, you cannot apply for the CERB with the CRA.

If you are applying for the CERB for the first time, and not sure where to apply, answer the questions under [Get Started](#), on the Canada Emergency Response Benefit page. We will direct you to the service option that best fits your situation.

Eligibility periods

Eligibility periods are fixed in 4-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).

If you start working again after you get a CERB payment, and then stop working, you need to re-apply for the CERB. When you re-apply, you must confirm that for at least 14 days in a row, during the period you are applying for, you won't receive:

- employment income
- self-employment income
- provincial or federal benefits related to maternity or paternity leave

How to apply

There are two ways to apply:

- Online at [Apply for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit \(CERB\) with CRA](#)
- Over the phone with an automated phone service: 1-800-959-2019 or 1-800-959-2041

To verify your identity over the phone, you will need your social insurance number (SIN) and postal code.

After you apply

If you are eligible for the CERB, you can expect \$2,000 (\$500 per week) for a 4-week period.

The CERB is paid by direct deposit or by cheque if your direct deposit information is not on file.

After you apply, you should get your payment in 3 business days if you signed up for direct deposit. If you haven't, you should get it in about 10 business days. If your situation continues, you can re-apply for a payment for multiple 4-week periods, to a maximum of 16 weeks (4 periods).



These benefits are taxable

You will need to report any payments received on next year's tax filing. An information slip will be made available for the 2020 tax year in My Account under Tax Information Slips (T4 and more).

Return or repay CERB

You may want to return or repay the CERB if you:

- return to work earlier than expected
- applied for CERB but later realize you're not eligible

You have the option to return or repay your CERB payment now.

- **If you still have the original CERB cheque**
 - o You can return the cheque by mail to the address below.
- **If you don't have the cheque or were paid by direct deposit**
 - o You can mail your repayment to the CRA. Be sure to:
 1. make payment out to "Receiver General for Canada"
 2. indicate it is for "Repayment of CERB"
 3. include your Social Insurance Number (SIN) or your Temporary Tax Number (TTN)

Mail your payment to

Revenue Processing – Repayment of CERB
Sudbury Tax Centre
1050 Notre Dame Avenue
Sudbury ON P3A 0C1

Questions about CERB

- [Canada Emergency Response Benefit](#)
- [Questions and Answers on the Canada Emergency Response Benefit](#)

Questions about applying for CERB with CRA?

To find answers to common questions through our automated help line or to speak with an agent about CERB: **1-833-966-2099**