



COVID-19: FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES

 CATEGORY	 BENEFIT	 APPLICATION PROCESS
 Small & Medium Business Payroll Subsidy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 75% payroll subsidy ▶ Back-dated to March 15 ▶ Details and eligibility info coming March 30 	Applications expected to begin in early April. More details coming March 30
 Canada Emergency Business Account	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Up to \$40,000 in loans ▶ Interest free for one year ▶ Up to first \$10,000 can be forgiven 	Loans provided through your financial institution, backstopped by federal government
 AUG 31 Tax Filing Flexibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Defer income tax payments until August 31 ▶ GST & import tax payments deferred to June 	Automatic - no application required
 Business Credit Availability Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ \$12.5 billion in credit for small/medium businesses 	BCAP is currently available. Contact your financial institution for more information

CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced this week updates to several measures he had previously introduced designed to help small and medium businesses through the COVID-19 pandemic. The updates include

Increasing the temporary wage subsidy from 10% to 75%

To support businesses facing revenue losses and to help prevent layoffs, the government is proposing to provide eligible small employers and medium employers a wage subsidy to keep employees on the payroll during this pandemic. Today the Prime Minister announced this wage subsidy will be increased to 75% and will be backdated to March 15. The subsidy will be available for up to three months.

Here's who is eligible and how to apply for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy program:

<https://globalnews.ca/news/6750050/justin-trudeau-coronavirus-wage-subsidy/>

Canada Emergency Business Account

Small & medium businesses will be eligible for loans of up to \$40,000 which will be interest-free for one year, and with up to the first \$10,000 being forgivable.

To qualify, organizations will need to demonstrate they paid between \$50,000 to \$1 million in total payroll in 2019. Repaying the balance of the loan on or before December 31, 2022 will result in loan forgiveness of 25 percent (up to \$10,000).

The loans will be provided by financial institutions and backstopped by the government.

Business Credit Availability Program

The **Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP)** will allow the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) and Export Development Canada (EDC) to provide \$12.5 billion of additional support, largely targeted to small and medium-sized businesses. This will be an effective tool for helping viable Canadian businesses remain resilient during these very uncertain times. BDC and EDC are cooperating with private sector lenders to coordinate on credit solutions for individual businesses, including in sectors such as oil and gas, air transportation and tourism.

Businesses interested in accessing the BCAP should first contact their financial institution, which will contact BDC and/or EDC where appropriate.

[All this information and more can be found here.](#) We'll update that page as more details become available.

CCA Releases Standardized Protocols For Canadian Construction Sites

While we have already published the [Construction Safety Association of Manitoba's Best Practices](#) for construction sites during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Canadian Construction Association has just released its own set of guidelines. You can find the document, titled [COVID-19 - Standardized Protocols for All Canadian Construction Sites, here.](#)

WCB Premium Deferrals

The Workers Compensation Board is providing relief measures for employers to help reduce financial burdens during the COVID-19 pandemic. The measures include:

- **Allowing companies to defer premium payments until the end of May**
- **Waiving late payment penalties until further notice**
- **Extending the payroll reporting deadline until the end of May**
- **Ensuring that coverage remains active for accounts that choose to defer payments until the end of May**

For more information [and details, please see this document from WCB.](#)

Emergency Benefits Available:

[Alberta](#)

[British Columbia](#)

[Saskatchewan](#)

[Quebec](#)

[Nova Scotia](#)

[Prince Edward Island](#)

[Newfoundland & Labrador](#)

[Yukon](#)

[New Brunswick](#)

Across Canada: [What services each province is providing during pandemic](#)

COVID-19 Construction Best Practices:

[Viewable Templates: What Construction Companies Are Doing To Keep Workers Safe During](#)

[COVID-19 Tips To Lead Your Company Through COVID-19](#)

[Managing Construction Contracts During COVID-19](#)

[Project Suspension Impact Checklist](#)

[Best Practices for Delivering Concrete During COVID-19](#)

[Guidance To Employers Performing Work In Private Residences](#)

[Guidelines For Industrial Construction Camps](#)