



GUIDE FOR BUSINESSES: PROVINCIAL & FEDERAL RELIEF MEASURES

Last Updated: April 6, 2020*



*Please note that this is a living document – and will often be updated.
Be sure to visit onbcanda.ca to access its most recent version.

PROVINCIAL RELIEF MEASURES

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Measure	Who It's For	How to Apply	Benefit	More Info
<p>WorkSafeNB Premium Deferrals</p>	<p>New Brunswick businesses financially affected due to COVID-19.</p>	<p>Work Safe NB is deferring premiums for businesses for three months. Assessment premiums related to employer payrolls for February, March and April will be deferred for three months without interest charges.</p>	<p>Improved cash flow for the New Brunswick business community.</p>	<p>This affects employers who pay their premiums on a monthly basis.</p> <p>Note: No premium payments are due to WorkSafeNB until June. This measure is not a permanent reduction in assessments payable, but a temporary postponement of payment.</p> <p>For annually-assessed employers who provide an estimate of their yearly payroll to WorkSafeNB, you may submit a revised payroll estimate (representing an increase or decrease) during the year and WorkSafeNB can adjust your account.</p> <p>To learn more, please contact Assessment Services at 1-800 999-9775 (option 4), or visit the WorkSafeNB website: https://www.worksafenb.ca/about-us/news-and-events/news/2020/as-we-face-the-global-pandemic-of-covid-19-worksafenb-defers-premium-payments-for-three-months-with-qa/</p>
<p>Working Capital for Small Businesses</p>	<p>New Brunswick small businesses.</p>	<p>GNB is providing operating loans of up to \$100,000 to small businesses.</p> <p>Opportunities NB (ONB) will work with a trusted partner to administer the application process.</p> <p>More details will be available on the application process in the coming days.</p>	<p>Working capital loans for small businesses will be up to \$100,000.</p>	<p>Companies considering a request should first (1) speak to their Financial Institution regarding options, (2) look for federal programs (3) and put cash flow projections together for 6 months to assess Working Capital needs.</p> <p>Existing ONB clients should contact their Business Development Executive.</p> <p>Businesses with questions should contact: nav@navnb.ca or, call the Business Navigator line at 1-833-799-7966.</p>

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Working Capital Injection	New Brunswick employers.	<p>Working capital loans will help employers respond to challenges associated with COVID-19.</p> <p>Employers will be able to apply for this assistance directly from Opportunities New Brunswick.</p>	Opportunities NB will provide – upon request – working capital in excess of \$100,000 to help manage the impacts of COVID-19 on their operations.	<p>Companies considering a request should first (1) speak to their Financial Institution regarding options, (2) look for federal programs (3) and put cash flow projections together for 6 months to assess Working Capital needs.</p> <p>Existing ONB clients should contact their Business Development Executive.</p> <p>Businesses with questions should contact: nav@navnb.ca or call the Business Navigator line at 1-833-799-7966.</p>
Waiving Late Penalties on Property Taxes	New Brunswick businesses financially affected due to COVID-19.	Though business property taxes must be paid by May 31, late penalties will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to see if the penalty can be waived for June 1 and July 1 due to undue financial challenges, such as having to close a business due to COVID-19.	Applies to all New Brunswick businesses. Waiving late penalties on property taxes for New Brunswick businesses affected by COVID-19 will support the provincial economy, help keep NB workers employed, and enable NB businesses to continue to operate.	<p>For more information, contact the Finance and Treasury Board at 1-800-669-7070</p> <p>Or visit: https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/gateways/for_business/covid19.html</p>
Income Tax Payment Deferrals	New Brunswick businesses financially affected due to COVID-19.	All New Brunswick businesses may defer, until after August 31, 2020 , the payment of any income tax amounts that become owing on or after March 18 and before September 2020.	Businesses owing New Brunswick income taxes.	<p>For more information, contact the Finance and Treasury Board at 1-800-669-7070</p> <p>Or visit: https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/gateways/for_business/covid19.html</p>

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<p>Deferrals of Interest and Principal Payments on Existing GNB Loans</p>	<p>Any New Brunswick business that has an existing loan with GNB.</p>	<p>Defer loan and interest repayments for up to six months on existing provincial loans.</p> <p>This assistance is available, on a case-by-case basis, to any business that has a loan with GNB.</p> <p>The deferral can be requested by contacting the department that issued the loan.</p>	<p>Deferrals of loan and interest repayments for up to six months on existing provincial loans will provide immediate financial relief to New Brunswick businesses experiencing difficulties as a result of COVID-19 crisis.</p>	<p>Visit: https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/gateways/for_business/covid19.html</p>

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Electricity Bill Payment Deferrals and Suspension of Disconnections for Non-Payment	All New Brunswick businesses and residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.	NB Power will suspend disconnections for non-payment and defer electricity bill payments for residential and small business customers for up to 90 days.	<p>NB Power has committed to the suspending disconnections for non-payment.</p> <p>NB Power has committed to the deferral of electricity bill payments for residential and small business customers for up to 90 days.</p> <p>In addition, NB Power will waive interest for past due balances and late payment charges issued after March 19, 2020 for customers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and extend existing payment arrangements for impacted customers.</p>	<p>For more information, visit the NB Power website: https://www.nbpower.com</p> <p>Or call 1-800-663-6272 for support.</p>
		Saint John Energy customers are encouraged to contact the company to discuss payment options.	<p>Payment options include: Customized payment plans, Effective immediately, waiving interest fees for past due balances until June 30, 2020, and There will be no power disconnects for nonpayment until further notice.</p>	<p>For more information, visit the Saint John Energy website: https://www.sjenergy.com</p> <p>Or call 506-658-5252</p>
		The City of Edmundston has put a number of measures in place for water, sewer and energy customers.	<p>Measures include: Stopping interest and late charges on all accounts as of Thursday, March 19; suspending payment collection efforts until the situation returns to normal. Suspending disconnections for non-payment until the situation returns to normal; and extending existing payment arrangements for those who can continue to meet their payments.</p>	<p>For more information, visit the City of Edmundston website: https://edmundston.ca/en/renseignements/com-muniques/1045-temporary-measures-to-help-with-electricity-and-water-and-sewer-bills</p> <p>Or call the Finance Department at 506-739-2118</p>

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<p>Self-Employed and Worker Emergency Income Benefit</p>	<p>Workers or self-employed people in New Brunswick who have lost their job due to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>The income benefit will be administered through the Red Cross.</p> <p>It is meant to bridge the time between when New Brunswick workers lose their employment and when they receive their federal benefits.</p> <p>Applications for the New Brunswick Workers Emergency Income Benefit opens at noon, Monday, March 30, 2020.</p>	<p>One-time \$900 taxable benefit to eligible persons.</p> <p>An individual must meet all of the following criteria to be eligible:</p> <p><i>I am an individual and have lost my job; been laid off on or after March 15th due to the state of emergency in New Brunswick OR I am self-employed and have lost all revenues through self-employment on or after March 15th due to the state of emergency in New Brunswick;</i></p> <p><i>I have earned a minimum of \$5,000 (gross) earnings in the last 12 months or in the last calendar year;</i></p> <p><i>I have lost my primary source of income;</i></p> <p><i>I have applied (or plan to apply) for support through the Federal government (either Employment Insurance or the Canada Emergency Response Benefit);</i></p> <p><i>I have no other income;</i></p> <p><i>I am a resident of New Brunswick, and I am 18 years of age or older.</i></p>	<p>Visit:</p> <p>https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/depart/depart/post-secondary_education_training_and_labour/prom/nbweib.html</p>

FEDERAL RELIEF MEASURES

Last Updated: April 6, 2020

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<p>Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy</p>	<p>Eligible employers include individuals, taxable corporations, and partnerships consisting of eligible employers as well as non-profit organizations and registered charities.</p> <p>For employers experiencing a decrease in revenues of at least 30% in March, April and May, compared to the same months in 2019.</p> <p>Public bodies would not be eligible for this subsidy. Public bodies include municipalities and local governments, Crown corporations, public universities, colleges, schools and hospitals.</p>	<p>Eligible employers would be able to apply for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy through a Canada Revenue Agency online portal.</p> <p>Employers would have to keep records demonstrating their reduction in arm's-length revenues and remuneration paid to employees.</p> <p>More details about the application process will be made available shortly.</p>	<p>The subsidy amount for a given employee on eligible remuneration paid between March 15 and June 6, 2020 would be the greater of:</p> <p>75% of the amount of remuneration paid, up to a maximum benefit of \$847 per week; and the amount of remuneration paid, up to a maximum benefit of \$847 per week or 75% of the employee's pre-crisis weekly remuneration, whichever is less.</p> <p>In applying for the subsidy, employers would be required to attest to the decline in revenue.</p> <p>There is an expectation that employers will use this money to pay their employees and federal government is encouraging the businesses to top-up the wages paid to employees by the 25% as much as possible.</p> <p>Further guidance will be provided in the coming days.</p> <p>This will help businesses to keep and return workers to the payroll.</p>	<p>The subsidy reduces remittances of Federal, Provincial and territorial income tax withheld on the employees' remuneration.</p> <p>The subsidy does not reduce Canada Pension Plan or Employment Insurance remittances.</p> <p>For more information on Temporary Wage Subsidy, refer to CRA Frequent Asked Questions: https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan/wage-subsidy.html</p>

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<p>Temporary Wage Subsidy for Employers</p>	<p>Eligible employers include individuals (excluding trusts), non-profit organizations, registered charities, or Canadian-controlled private corporations (CCPC) who have an existing business number and payroll program account with the CRA on March 18, 2020; and pay salary, wages, bonuses, or other remuneration to an employee.</p>	<p>No application is required. The subsidy reduces remittances of Federal, Provincial and territorial income tax withheld on the employees' remuneration.</p>	<p>Up to 10% of an employee's wage from March 18, 2020 to June 19, 2020, up to a maximum benefit of \$1,375 for each eligible employee and a maximum of \$25,000 total per employer.</p> <p>For individuals this could mean payments of up to \$847 a week.</p> <p>For employers that are eligible for both the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy and the 10% wage subsidy for a period, any benefit from the 10% wage subsidy for remuneration paid in a specific period would generally reduce the amount available to be claimed under the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy in that same period.</p>	<p>The subsidy must be calculated manually, either by you or whoever is responsible for making your payroll remittances. The CRA will not automatically calculate the allowable subsidy.</p> <p>The subsidy does not reduce Canada Pension Plan or Employment Insurance remittances.</p> <p>For more information on Temporary Wage Subsidy for Employers, see:</p> <p>https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/frequently-asked-questions-wage-subsidy-small-businesses.html</p>

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Remittance Deferral for GST, HST and Duties and Taxes on Imports	Businesses, including self-employed individuals may defer all Goods and Services/Harmonized Sales Tax remittances until June 30, 2020, as well as customs duties owed for imports.	Tax payment deferral: No application needed.	<p>The following GST/HST amounts can be deferred until June 30, 2020:</p> <p>For monthly filers, the amounts collected for the February, March and April 2020 reporting periods;</p> <p>For quarterly filers, the amounts collected for the January 1, 2020 through March 31, 2020 reporting period; and</p> <p>For annual filers the amounts collected and owing for their previous fiscal year and instalments of GST/HST in respect of the filer's current fiscal year.</p> <p>Customs duties and GST on imports due for March, April and May (2020) will be deferred to June 30, 2020.</p>	For more information: https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/03/additional-support-for-canadian-businesses-from-the-economic-impact-of-covid-19.html

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Corporate Income Tax Return and Payment Deferral	<p>Tax return deferral: Corporations with an income tax return due date after March 18, 2020 and before June 1, 2020.</p> <p>Tax payment deferral: Persons with corporate income tax payments (including 2020 tax installments) that become owing on or after March 18, 2020 and before September 1, 2020.</p>	<p>Tax return deferral: no application required.</p> <p>Tax payment deferral: no application required. Defer any payments without any penalties or interest.</p>	<p>Corporate tax return due date deferred to June 1, 2020.</p> <p>Corporations that owe income tax balances or income tax installments on or after March 18, 2020 and before September 1, 2020 have until September 1, 2020 to remit these amounts.</p> <p>No penalties or interest will apply to any tax returns filed or payments made on or before the extended due dates.</p>	<p>For additional information see: https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan/covid19-businesses.html#business_credit_availability_program</p>
Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)	<p>Small businesses and not-for-profits who need access to the capital to help cover operating costs.</p>	<p>Implemented by eligible financial institutions in cooperation with Export Development Canada (EDC).</p> <p>Contact financial institutions directly to apply for these loans.</p> <p>Details expected in the three weeks after March 27, 2020.</p>	<p>Potential recipients must demonstrate they paid between \$50,000 to \$1 million in total payroll in 2019.</p> <p>Interest-free loans of up to \$40,000 guaranteed by the Government of Canada.</p> <p>Repayment of the balance of the loan on or before December 31, 2022 will result in loan forgiveness of 25% (up to \$10,000).</p>	<p>For more information: https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2020/03/additional-support-for-canadian-businesses-from-the-economic-impact-of-covid-19.html</p>

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Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Loan Guarantee Program	For Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SME's)	<p>Available to SMEs through their financial institutions to help weather the impacts of COVID-19.</p> <p>Contact financial institutions directly to apply for these loans.</p> <p>Details expected in the three weeks after March 27, 2020.</p>	<p>Export Development Canada (EDC) to provide guarantees to financial institutions so that they can issue new operating credit and cash flow term loans of up to \$6.25 million to small and medium-sized businesses.</p>	<p>This new loan program will provide up to a total of \$20 billion for export sector and domestic companies.</p> <p>For more information: https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/03/additional-support-for-canadian-businesses-from-the-economic-impact-of-covid-19.html</p>
Co-Lending Program for Small and Medium Enterprises	For Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SME's)	<p>Financial institutions will conduct the underwriting and manage the interface with their SME customers.</p> <p>Interested businesses should work with their current financial institutions.</p>	<p>The program is to support the financing in the private sector through the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) and Export Development Canada (EDC).</p> <p>Eligible businesses may obtain incremental credit amounts up to \$6.25 million BDC's portion of this program is up to \$5 million maximum per loan.</p>	<p>For more information: https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/03/additional-support-for-canadian-businesses-from-the-economic-impact-of-covid-19.html</p>

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Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP)	Additional credit solutions for individual businesses, including in sectors such as oil and gas, air transportation, exportation and tourism.	Through EDC and BDC working with private sector financial institutions.	Up to \$65 billion	<p>The BCAP includes the CERB and Co-Lending programs above. New programs are expected, including sector specific support, are expected as needs arise.</p> <p>For additional information see: https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan/covid19-businesses.html#business_credit_availability_program</p>
Credit and Liquidity Support	Provides long-term stable funding to banks and mortgage lenders.	This program is intended to help facilitate continued lending to Canadian consumers and businesses and add liquidity to Canada's mortgage market.	<p>The government will purchase up to \$150 billion (up from \$50 billion) insured mortgage pools to stabilize funding to banks and lenders through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.</p> <p>In addition, the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI) is lowering the Domestic Stability Buffer requirement for domestic systemically important banks by 1.25% (to 1.00%) of risk weighted assets, effective immediately. The release of the buffer will support in excess of \$300 billions of additional lending capacity.</p>	<p>For more information: https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan/covid19-businesses.html#insure_mortgage_purchase_program</p>

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Credit and Liquidity Support to the Agricultural and Agri-Food Sector	Provides credit to producers, agribusinesses and food processors.	Available through Farm Credit Canada	<p>Providing \$5 billion in additional lending capacity through Farm Credit Canada to assist farmers with cashflow issues and processors affected by lost sales.</p> <p>In addition, a 6-month stay of default for payments and loan deferrals to all eligible farmers who have an outstanding Advance Payments Program loan due on or before April 30.</p>	<p>For more information: https://www.fcc-fac.ca/en/covid-19/program-details.html</p> <p>Applications can be made through the local Farm Credit Canada office or the customer service centre at 1-888-332-3301.</p>
Extension of Work Sharing Program	Allows extended work-sharing agreements for employers affected by the downturn in business due to COVID-19.	This program is available through Service Canada.	An extension of the duration of work-sharing agreement by an additional 38 weeks to a total of 76 weeks and waived the mandatory waiting period.	<p>Employers across Canada may call toll-free 1-800-367-5693 (TTY: 1-855-881-9874)</p> <p>ESDC web site: https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/work-sharing.html</p>

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<p>Providing Procurement Opportunities to Canadian Businesses</p>	<p>For suppliers that are able to provide specific products or services related to mitigating the impact of COVID-19.</p>	<p>Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC), Innovation Science and Economic Development (ISED) and the National Research Council of Canada (NRC)</p>	<p>PSPC has established a Buy Canada web portal and intake form for suppliers.</p> <p>ISED has launched a "call to action" to Canadian manufacturers to help fight COVID-19.</p> <p>NRC has issued a COVID-19 "Challenge Program."</p>	<p>Public Services and Procurement Canada Web portal: https://buyandsell.gc.ca/calling-all-suppliers-help-canada-combat-covid-19</p> <p>Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) Web page: https://www.canada.ca/en/services/business/maintaingrowimprovebusiness/manufacturers-needed.html</p> <p>The National Research Council (NRC): NRC Web page: https://nrc.canada.ca/en/research-development/research-collaboration/nrc-covid-19-response</p> <p>Intake Form for Challenge: https://nrc.canada.ca/en/research-development/research-collaboration/programs/expression-interest-challenge-program-collaboration</p> <p>Intake form IRAP: https://nrc.canada.ca/en/support-technology-innovation/covid-19-national-research-council-industrial-research-assistance-program</p>