

New Brunswick Self-Employed Lockdown Fund

We are pleased to announce the new Self-Employed Lockdown Fund (SELF) for New Brunswick businesses without employees. We are proud to introduce this program as a compliment to other benefits for our most-vulnerable businesses.

On January 19, the Government of New Brunswick, through Opportunities NB (ONB) announced the New Brunswick Self-Employed Lockdown Fund (SELF), making available a grant of \$2,000 for businesses without employees that were ordered to close under the COVID-19 Winter Plan.

Applications can be made online through the Opportunities NB website beginning February 1, 2022 and will be accepted for the period ending January 31, 2022.

To support businesses throughout the application process, ONB's Business Navigators are available to assist and can be reached by email at nav@navnb.ca or phone at 1 (833) 799-7966.

Program Information:

1. What is the NB Self-Employed Lockdown Fund Program?

On January 19, the Government of New Brunswick, through Opportunities NB (ONB) announced the New Brunswick Self-Employed Lockdown Fund, making available a grant of \$2,000 for businesses without employees that were ordered to close under the COVID-19 Winter Plan.

2. When will the SELF be available?

Applications can be made online through the Opportunities NB website beginning on February 1, 2022.

3. How long will the program be open to businesses?

Applications will be accepted until March 31, 2022.



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4. What's included in the Self-Employed Lockdown Fund?

The SELF program makes available a grant of \$2,000 for eligible businesses without employees that were ordered to close under the COVID-19 Winter Plan.

5. What businesses are eligible?

Eligible businesses for the SELF include those without employees that were ordered to close under the COVID-19 Winter Plan. To be eligible, businesses must prove they:

- Are registered, and can demonstrate they are actively carrying on a business in New Brunswick;
- possess an active and valid CRA Business Number;
- are in good standing with the Province of New Brunswick and with the Corporate Registry of New Brunswick, as appropriate; and
- Can provide evidence of annual gross business income of more than \$30,000 (*the amount of money you earn before anything is taken out for taxes or any other deductions*).

Applicants will be required to produce tax documents like a T2, HST, or a copy of form T2125, Statement of Business or Professional Activities from their personal income tax return.

6. My business didn't make \$30,000 in 2020, can I still apply?

If your business did not meet a gross annual income of \$30,000 in 2020, your 2019 gross sales can be used instead.

- Note: For those businesses who require their 2021 tax info to meet \$30,000 threshold, the application date is extended until March 31, 2022.

7. Is it repayable?

These will be grants and non-repayable.

8. Is there a cap or a "first come first serve" approach to the grant?

The Government of New Brunswick is committed to responding proactively to the needs of businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will work to monitor program uptake on an ongoing basis and respond accordingly as demand dictates.



9. My annual gross business income is below \$30,000, what other supports are available to me?

As with GNB's overall approach to COVID-19 pandemic response, we are seeking to provide support complementary to other sources.

- For more information on federal supports currently available to Canadians, please visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/covid19-emergency-benefits.html>
- For more information on other supports currently available for New Brunswick businesses, please visit: <https://onbcanada.ca/guide-for-businesses-provincial-and-federal-relief-measures/>
- For more information on New Brunswick advice and guidance specific for businesses, we encourage you to visit GNB's COVID-19 Guidance for Business page: <https://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/eco-bce/Promo/covid-19/GuidelinesforRetail2022.pdf>

10. Will you be making an additional grant available?

We will continue to closely monitor and assess economic trends and will consider additional measures if required.



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