

COVID-19 government support programs for businesses

Support type	What is it	Benefits	Additional Information
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) – 75%	Supports employers affected by the pandemic from March 15, 2020 to August 29, 2020.	<p>Subsidy covers 75% of an employee's wages – up to \$847 per week - for employers who have suffered a drop in gross revenues of at least 15% in March, and 30% in April and May.</p> <p>Employers who are eligible for the CEWS are entitled to receive a 100% refund for certain employer contributions to CI, CPP, the Quebec Pension Plan, and the Quebec Parental Insurance Plan for employees who are on leave with pay.</p>	Click <a href="#">CEWS</a> for additional information about the subsidy and the application process.
Business wage subsidy – 10%	<p>A three-month measure to allow employers to reduce the amount of payroll deduction required to the CRA.</p> <p>Program dates: March 18, 2020 to June 19, 2020</p>	Up to 10% of an employee's wage for a period of 3 months, up to a maximum of \$1,375 per eligible employee and \$25,000 per employer.	<p>Obtain this subsidy by reducing remittances to the CRA of federal, provincial, and territorial income tax withheld on employees' remuneration.</p> <p>Click <a href="#">here</a> for additional information from the CRA.</p>
Canada Emergency Business Accounts (CEBA)	Access to capital for small businesses to assist with operating costs.	<p>CEBA will provide interest free loans of up to \$40,000 to small businesses and not-for-profits to help pay for operating costs for the period where revenues have declined.</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>	Learn more about the <a href="#">CEBA</a> .

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EI Work Sharing program enhancements	Assists employers and employees avoid layoffs when there is a temporary decrease in business activity beyond the control of the employer.  COVID-19 temporary special measures are effective March 15, 2020 to March 14, 2021	Extends the qualifying weeks for the EI Work Sharing program from 38 to 76.	Click on <a href="#">Work Sharing program</a> for additional information and the application process.
Corporate income tax return and payment deferral	The CRA is allowing all businesses to defer, until August 31, 2020, the payment of any income tax amounts that become owing on or after March 18 and before September 2020.	This relief applies to tax balances due, as well as instalments.  No interest or penalties will accumulate on these amounts during this period.	Refer to the updated <a href="#">income tax filing and payment deadlines</a> from the CRA.
GST, HST & custom duties on imports	Businesses, included self-employed individuals, to defer until June 30, 2020 payments of GST/HST.	Payments that become owing from March 27, 2020 until the end of May, 2020 can be deferred until June 30, 2020.	Refer to FAQ for deferral of GST/HST Tax remittances: <a href="#">CRA</a> and COVID-19.
Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP)	Federal government has provided additional support through the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) and Export Development Canada (EDC).	Loan Guarantee for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises  Co-Lending Program for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises	Learn more about the <a href="#">BCAP</a> .
Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA)	This program will lower rent by 75% for impacted small businesses, non-profit, and charitable organizations affected by COVID-19.	Provide forgivable loans to qualifying commercial property owners to cover 50% of three monthly rent payments during April, May, and June of 2020.  Loans forgiven if mortgaged property owner agrees to reduce small business tenants' rent by at least 75%.	Refer to <a href="#">CECRA</a> for program details.