

BRIEFING NOTE
Provincial & Federal Employer Support Services

Purpose

The following will summarize Government of Canada and Government of Alberta employer supports developed to mitigate the impact of COVID-19. Contact information and eligibility criteria have been provided.

Government of Alberta Employer Supports

Information on *all employee and employer supports* issued by the Government of Alberta can be found [here](#). Specific employer supports are summarized below.

Summary: Government of Alberta Employee Programs & Support Services – COVID-19	Eligibility Criteria and Additional Information	Contact Information
1) Corporate Income Tax Changes: Corporate income tax balances and instalment payments are deferred until August 31, 2020 to increase employers' access to cash so they can pay employees, address debts and continue operations.	N/A	Michael Hocken, ADM Tax & Revenue Administration Division 780-644-4075
2) Education Property Tax Deferral: Property tax rates will be frozen at last year's level – reversing the 3.4 per cent population and inflation increase added in Budget 2020. The collection of non-residential education property tax for businesses will be deferred for 6 months. Businesses capable of paying their taxes in full are encouraged to do so to assist the province in supporting Albertans.	For additional information, click here .	N/A
3) WCB Premium Payment Deferral: Small, medium and large private sector employers can defer WCB premium payments until 2021. For small and medium businesses, the government will cover 50 per cent of the 2020 premium; large employers will have their 2020 WCB premium payments deferred until 2021.	For additional information, click here .	Rachel Stein, Chief of Staff to the Deputy Minister: 780-643-1681
4) Utility Payment Deferral: Residential, farm and small commercial customers can defer electricity and natural gas bill payments for the next 90 days to ensure no one will be cut off, regardless of the service provider.	For additional information and eligibility criteria click here .	For additional information contact your utility provider.
5) Tourism Levy Deferral: Hotels and other lodging providers can delay paying the tourism levy until Aug. 31 for amounts that become due to government on or after March 27, 2020. Payments deferred until Aug. 31 will not be subject to penalties or interest.	For additional information, eligibility criteria and to apply click here .	N/A
6) Banks & Credit Union Support: Businesses are encouraged to contact their financial institution for customized repayment options and supports. Alberta Treasury Branch customers are able to apply for a payment deferral on loans and lines of credit for up to 6 months; access to additional working capital can also be arranged.	N/A	For additional information contact your banking or credit union institution.

Government of Canada Employer Supports

Information on *all employee and employer supports* issued by the Government of Canada can be found [here](#). Specific employer supports are summarized below.

Summary: Government of Canada Employee Programs & Support Services – COVID-19	Eligibility Criteria and Additional Information	Contact Information
<p>1) Work-Sharing Program: The duration of the program has been extended from 38 to 76 weeks; it is designed to help employers and employees avoid layoffs when there is a temporary reduction in the normal level of business activity that is beyond the control of the employer. The measure provides income support to employees eligible for Employment Insurance benefits who work a temporarily reduced work week while their employer recovers.</p>	<p>For additional information, eligibility criteria and to apply click here.</p>	<p>1-800-367-5693</p>
<p>2) Emergency Wage Subsidy: The wage subsidy program would cover 75 per cent of salaries for businesses for up to 3 months retroactive March 15, 2020. Organizations that do not qualify for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy may qualify for the previously announced wage subsidy of 10 per cent of remuneration paid from March 18 to before June 20, 2020. Eligible employers would be able to access the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy by applying through a Canada Revenue Agency online portal.</p>	<p>For additional information, eligibility criteria and to apply click here.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>3) Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP): BCAP will provide \$65 billion of support through the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) and Export Development Canada (EDC). BDC and EDC are working with private sector lenders to coordinate on credit solutions for individual businesses. There are three streams to this program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Canada Emergency Business Account: will provide interest-free loans of up to \$40,000 to small businesses and not-for-profits, to help cover their operating costs during a period where their revenues have been temporarily reduced. b. Loan Guarantee for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises: EDC is working with financial institutions to issue new operating credit and cash flow term loans of up to \$6.25 million to SMEs. c. Co-Lending Program for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises: BDC is working with financial institutions to co-lend term loans to SMEs for their operational cash flow requirements. Eligible businesses may obtain incremental credit amounts of up to \$6.25 million through the program. <p>To apply, contact your financial institution directly and it will contact BDC and EDC as appropriate.</p>	<p>For additional information, eligibility criteria and to apply click here.</p>	<p>For additional information contact your banking or credit union institution.</p>
<p>4) Additional time to pay income taxes: All businesses can defer tax payment until August 31, 2020. No interest or penalties will accumulate during this period.</p>	<p>For additional information, click here.</p>	<p>N/A</p>