Get your benefit and credit payments!

How can you get benefit and credit payments?

You could get benefit and credit payments if you do your taxes every year, even if you had no income or your income was tax exempt. If you have a spouse or common-law partner, they also have to do their taxes every year.

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) uses the information from your income tax and benefit return to calculate your benefit and credit payments and any related provincial or territorial payments you may be eligible for.

If you have children in your care, you should apply for the Canada child benefit by either filling out Form RC66, Canada Child Benefits Application, or by using My Account.

You could apply for benefits and credits for up to 10 years back, if you were not receiving them but you were eligible for them. You will have to do your taxes for those years if you have not already done them.

Benefits, credits, and deductions

**Canada child benefit** – Up to $6,765 per year for each child under the age of 6, and up to $5,708 per year for each child aged 6 to 17.

**Child disability benefit** – Up to $2,886 per year if your child under age 18 is eligible for the disability tax credit.

**GST/HST credit** – Up to $592 per year, plus $155 per year for each child under the age of 19.

**Disability tax credit** – Up to $8,416 as a non-refundable tax credit you can claim on your return, or a family member who supports you can claim on their return, if you have a disability.

**Canada workers benefit** – Up to $2,335 as a refundable tax credit on your return, if you have working income. You could also apply to get up to half of the tax credit amount in advance payments.

**Northern residents deductions** – A basic residency amount of $11 for each day that you lived in a prescribed northern zone and a basic residency amount of $5.50 for each day that you lived in a prescribed intermediate zone. If you meet the conditions, you can also claim the additional residency amount of $11 for each day that you lived in a prescribed northern zone and $5.50 for each day that you lived in a prescribed intermediate zone.

If you have included as part of your income taxable travel benefits that you received from your employment, you may be able to claim a deduction for travel.

Do you have your social insurance number?

To apply for benefits and credits, you need a social insurance number (SIN). To get a SIN, you can apply online, by mail, or in person at a Service Canada office (with an appointment).

For more information, go to canada.ca/social-insurance-number.
Keep getting your payments

Is the CRA asking for documents?
After you apply for benefits, the CRA may ask you for documents to confirm the information they have on file about you. If you cannot provide the documents, call the CRA at the number on the letter. They can suggest other documents you could send instead and give you more time to answer.

If you don’t answer the letter, your benefit and credit payments could stop.

Keep your personal information up to date
Changes to your personal information, such as your marital status, the number of children in your care, and your address, directly affect your benefit and credit payments. To avoid delays and incorrect payments, update your personal information with the CRA.

Need help?
Get your taxes done for free!
If you have a modest income and a simple tax situation, a volunteer could do your taxes for you at one of our free tax clinics.

For more information and to find a tax clinic, go to canada.ca/taxes-help or call the CRA.

Authorize a representative
Individuals can authorize another person to deal with the CRA on their behalf.

Online access – A representative can submit an authorization request using the Represent a Client secure portal, or by using certified commercial EFILE software. An individual can also authorize their representative themselves using My Account.

Offline access – An individual can authorize a representative by completing form AUT-01, Authorize a Representative for Access by Phone and Mail.

For more information, go to canada.ca/taxes-representative-authorization.

For more information

Online
Tax information for Indigenous peoples canada.ca/taxes-aboriginal-peoples
Child and family benefits canada.ca/child-family-benefits
Disability tax credit canada.ca/disability-tax-credit
Northern residents deductions canada.ca/taxes-northern-residents
Forms and publications canada.ca/cra-forms

By phone
To ask about benefits 1-800-387-1193
For other questions and to get forms 1-800-959-8281
Social insurance number (Service Canada) 1-866-274-6627
Tax and benefit enquiries for territorial residents 1-866-426-1527

The Taxpayer Bill of Rights states that every Canadian has the right to complete, accurate, clear, and timely information that explains the laws and policies that apply to their unique situation.

Don't get scammed! Beware of tax fraud schemes. If you get a call or an email that sounds like a scam, it probably is! When in doubt, verify your information in My Account or call the CRA. For more information, go to canada.ca/taxes-fraud-prevention.