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Although we strive to provide accurate, relevant and timely information, there is no guarantee that the information will continue to be accurate in the future. Government programs, and other programs available to small businesses, can change daily. The information we provide you through this website is for educational and informational purposes only. For advice that pertains to your unique business situation, please get in touch with us at 1.800.265.1002 or email at fbcc@fbc.ca

Read more on government programs, tools, calculators and advice on how to navigate your business through COVID-19 on FBC's resource centre www.fbc.ca/covid19-updates

SUBJECT	SUMMARY	PROGRAM DETAILS
BUSINESS "Restoring Safe Services: Manitoba's Pandemic & Economic Roadmap for Recovery"	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Per the Government of Manitoba: "We are now in a position to ease some restrictions and support economic recovery by taking measures to restore some services. Going forward, we will make evidence-based decisions to ease public health measures and introduce processes and services that address our new normal."	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Please refer to the phases and restrictions outlined below for where your business falls in the "restoration roadmap"Each phase will require a period of a minimum three to four weeks to observe the results of the previous phase, and to make determinations about acceptable next steps<ul style="list-style-type: none">Restoring Safe ServicesThe government opened a survey to allow businesses and citizens to provide their feedback on their plan to restore safe services.<ul style="list-style-type: none">A survey on Phase 2 is available online
BUSINESS Non-Critical Business Restrictions and Critical Service Categories	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Refer to Manitoba's "Restoring Safe Services" Plan for UpdatesIn a Public Health Emergency, businesses and individuals are required to follow Public Health Orders including business hours of operation, number of occupants permitted on premises at one time and more.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Please refer to the Government orders relevant to your business category<ul style="list-style-type: none">Public Health Orders (includes list of non-critical business restrictions)Public Health Act (includes list of critical services)Manitoba State of Emergency (includes summaries of Public Health Orders)

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SUMMARY

PROGRAM DETAILS

BUSINESS
Manitoba Bridge Grant

- The Manitoba Bridge Grant provides a \$5,000 grant to eligible Manitoba businesses and organizations that are required to fully close their premises to the public as a result of Manitoba COVID-19 Prevention Orders in effect as of November 12, 2020 or any revisions to those Orders.

- The Manitoba Bridge Grant of \$5,000 will be paid to qualifying businesses as follows:
 - must be actively operating or conducting business in Manitoba immediately prior to the implementation of applicable public health orders;
 - was required to fully close their premises to the public because of Manitoba COVID-19 Prevention Orders in effect as of November 12, 2020 or any revisions to those Orders.
 - must operate a physical location in the region to which the public health order applies to:
 - Interlake-Eastern Region
 - Northern Region
 - Prairie Mountain Region
 - Southern Health-Santé Sud Region
 - Winnipeg Metropolitan Region
- Eligible businesses will receive a grant of \$5,000 per business or organization (multiple locations of one business are not eligible for additional grants)
- Please review complete [eligibility criteria](#) before you apply
- Application documents required:
 - Your Business Number, Companies Office Registry Number, Workers Compensation Board or Retail Sales Tax account numbers (as applicable)
 - The business or organization's bank account information
 - Your Social Insurance Number, if you are applying as a sole proprietor or partnership, when the partner is an individual. The applicant must be the sole-proprietor, partner, director, or authorized representative
- The grant is a taxable benefit and must be declared on your annual tax returns.
- **Apply online [Manitoba Bridge Grant Application](#)**
- **Application deadline is December 15, 2020**
 - Deadline is subject to change as determined by the Manitoba Government

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BUSINESS
Manitoba Gap
Protection Program

SUMMARY

- The Manitoba Gap Protection Program (MGPP) is available to any of the approximately 120,000 businesses in Manitoba who have fallen into a gap in failing to qualify for the various federal government assistance programs and wage subsidies created because of COVID-19
- **UPDATE: APPLICATIONS ARE NOW CLOSED**

PROGRAM DETAILS

- The province will advance each eligible business the non-interest bearing forgivable MGPP loan of \$6,000
- The loan is forgiven on December 31, 2020 if recipients declare at that time that they have not received any non-repayable COVID-19 federal supports greater than \$6,000
- **Application deadline is October 31, 2020**
 - Deadline is subject to change as determined by the Manitoba Government
- To be eligible for the MGPP funding, a business must:
 - Be a permanent, Manitoba-based business operating in the Province of Manitoba;
 - Have been operational on March 20, 2020;
 - Be a for profit sole proprietor, partnership, corporation or co-operative;
 - Have temporarily ceased or curtailed operations as a result of a COVID-19 public health order;
 - Have had their Manitoba-based business “harmed” by the public health orders;
 - Have not received federal government COVID-19 grant funding support, and do not intend to apply for and receive previously announced federal government COVID-19 non-repayable funding support;
 - Be registered, and in good standing, with the Companies Office and possess a valid Business Number; and
 - Have an e-mail address and a valid business bank account.
- The funds will be electronically deposited into the business bank account, with a confirmation email from the program
- If you accept federal support greater than \$6,000 prior to December 31, and have received the MGPP, the loan will be due in full to the Manitoba Government by March 31, 2021
- Visit the [Manitoba Grant Protection Program](#) for exclusions and application process
- If you require assistance, please contact the Manitoba Economic Assistance Office at 1-888-805-7554.
- [FBC Summary and Details](#)

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SUBJECT	SUMMARY	PROGRAM DETAILS
BUSINESS Manitoba Back to Work This Summer Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Manitoba Back to Work Program initiative is a hiring program aiming to ease the road to recovery for Manitoba businesses.• The program offers a wage subsidy of up to \$5,000 per worker to eligible businesses.• It is designed to encourage private sector employers to bring back their employees or take on new hires.• Employers were to have applied by August 1, 2020 to participate in this program.• PLEASE SEE MANITOBA BACK TO WORK SUBSIDY PROGRAM NEXT PAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employers are eligible to receive a reimbursement of 50 per cent of total wages actually paid over a 10-week period, between June 1 and August 30, 2020, to a maximum of \$5,000 per worker. Payment will be made as a lump sum upon proof of payment of wages.• Employers can apply to receive funding for up to five positions.• Employers are eligible to receive reimbursement only for wages paid and employees hired on or after June 1, 2020.• Payment will be made as a lump sum upon proof of payment of wages.• Employers may receive funding for different positions under both the Manitoba Summer Student Recovery Jobs Program (see page 6) and the Manitoba Back to Work This Summer Program, to a combined maximum of five positions in total.• Eligible Employers:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Manitoba-based businesses operating in the Province of Manitoba are eligible.○ Employers must possess an active and valid Business Number, business bank account, and e-mail address.○ Businesses must be registered, and in good standing with the Companies Office (not required for sole proprietors).○ Businesses must not have received funding support from another government program for the same position(s). This includes, but is not limited to,<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ the Canada Summer Job Program, Green Team, Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, and Manitoba Summer Student Recovery Jobs Program.▪ This does not include the Federal government's 10 per cent Temporary Wage Subsidy for Employers.○ Visit the Manitoba Back to Work This Summer Program Page for full eligibility requirements and a list of ineligible businesses.• To participate in the program, employers were required to apply on or before August 1, 2020• FBC Summary and Details

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PROGRAM DETAILS

BUSINESS
Back to Work in
Manitoba Wage Subsidy
Program

- The Back to Work in Manitoba Wage Subsidy Program is designed to encourage Manitoba employers to bring back their employees or take on new hires.

- Employers are eligible to receive a reimbursement of 50 per cent of total wages actually paid between July 16 and December 31, 2020, to a maximum of \$5,000 per worker.
- Employer eligibility criteria:
 - The program is open to all private sector and non-profit employers who are operating in Manitoba and meet all of the following criteria:
 - Manitoba-based businesses and non-profit organizations operating in the Province of Manitoba, including new startups, are eligible.
 - Employers must possess an active and valid Business Number, business bank account, and e-mail address.
 - Employers must be registered, and in good standing with the Companies Office (not required for sole proprietors).
- Employers can hire 20 new or rehired employees under this program.
- Employers cannot receive funding for any existing employees that are or have been subsidized by another government program. This includes, but is not limited to, the Canada Summer Job Program, Green Team, Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, Manitoba Back to Work this Summer Program and Manitoba Summer Student Recovery Jobs Program. (This does not include the Federal government's 10 per cent Temporary Wage Subsidy for Employers.)
- Employers that received support under the Manitoba Back to Work this Summer Program and Manitoba Summer Student Recovery Jobs Program are eligible to receive support to hire 20 new or rehired employees under this program.
- Employers can apply to receive funding for up to 20 positions and receive up to \$100,000. Payment will be made as a lump sum upon proof of payment of wages.
- Please note that owners are not eligible to receive reimbursement for wages paid to themselves.
- Employers can submit their [applications online](#)
(continued next page)



SUBJECT

SUMMARY

PROGRAM DETAILS

BUSINESS
Back to Work in
Manitoba Wage Subsidy
Program

- The Back to Work in Manitoba Wage Subsidy Program is designed to encourage Manitoba employers to bring back their employees or take on new hires.

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- Employers will then be required to provide proof of payment of wages by February 1, 2021. If all employer obligations are met, payment will be made within 14 days of providing proof of payment of wages.
- Employers are eligible to receive reimbursement only for wages paid and employees hired on or after July 16, 2020.
- To participate in the program, employers will be required to submit an application on or before December 1, 2020.
- **Employer obligations:**
 - The program is open to all workers who are legally entitled to work in Canada, including students.
 - All positions are eligible, regardless of work hours (full-time, part-time, and casual) and term (permanent, contract, and seasonal).
 - There is no maximum wage amount. However, reimbursement under the program is limited to \$5,000 per eligible worker.
 - Employers cannot hire a member of their immediate family for any positions for which they are requesting funding (i.e., parents, siblings, spouse or children).
 - Employers must comply with all federal, provincial and municipal laws and regulatory requirements.
 - Employers must follow Manitoba's COVID-19 public health guidelines for the workplace.
 - Employers must maintain complete and correct payroll, employment and accounting records, financial documents and other records for each worker hired under this program.
 - * * The worker may be a previous employee laid-off due to COVID-19, provided they had not been re-hired prior to July 16, 2020, or a new employee. Workers hired under this program must not displace any existing employees.

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SUBJECT	SUMMARY	PROGRAM DETAILS
BUSINESS Manitoba Summer Student Recovery Jobs Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Summer Student Recovery Jobs Program promotes the hiring of high school and post-secondary students who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program provides wage subsidies to employers from the private and not-for-profit sectors to employ students aged 15 to 29APPLICATIONS FOR THIS PROGRAM ARE CLOSED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Financial Support offered to eligible employers as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">A reimbursement of \$7 per hour up to a maximum of \$5,000 per student employed between May 1 and September 4, 2020.Employers can be subsidized to hire up to five students.Payment will be made as a lump sum at the end of the employment period, upon proof of payment of student wage.Employers cannot receive a wage subsidy for any positions that are already being subsidized by another government program.Employers receiving government wage subsidies to hire some students can apply to the Summer Student Recovery Jobs Program to hire additional/new studentsEligible Employers:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Open to all private sector and non-profit employers operating in Manitoba.Public sector employers including public health, educational institutions, and municipal/provincial/federal governments and agencies and political parties are not eligible.Eligible Students must:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Be a high school or post-secondary student aged 15 to 29 residing in Manitoba;Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, international student, or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act for the duration of the employment; andBe legally entitled to work in Manitoba.The student must be a new hire for the spring/summer months with a start date of May 1 or later.Existing permanent or part-time employee are not eligibleApplications are now closedEmployer obligations for the program can be found onlineIf you have any questions, or have unique circumstances you would like to review, please email mgi@gov.mb.ca

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BUSINESS
Retail Sales Tax Filing
Deadline Extended for
Businesses

- The province will extend the Retail Sales Tax (RST) filing deadlines for small and medium-sized businesses

- Filing deadlines for Retail Sales Tax (RST) will be extended:
 - Eligible: small and medium-sized businesses with monthly remittances of no more than \$10,000.
 - Monthly filers with returns due April 20, May 20, June 22, July 20, August 20, and September 21 will now be due on October 20, 2020
 - Quarterly filers with returns due April 20 and July 20 will now have the due date extended to October 20, 2020.
 - Businesses that qualify for the above filing extension that were not able to file and remit their February sales tax return by the March 20th due date will not be assessed a late filing penalty and interest will not be applied until after October 20, 2020.
 - Interest will continue to apply on all outstanding tax debts established prior to the March remittance deadlines.
 - Businesses will still receive paper returns in the mail or web notice reminders by email for return periods March, April, May, June, July and August.

BUSINESS
Health and Post
Secondary Education
Tax Levy Filing Deadline
Extended for Businesses

- The province will extend the Health and Post Secondary Education Tax Levy (HE Levy) filing deadlines for small and medium-sized businesses

- Filing deadlines for HE Levy returns for small and medium-sized businesses with monthly remittances of no more than \$10,000.
 - Returns normally due on April 15 and May 15, June 15, July 15, August 17 and September 15 will now be due on October 15, 2020.
 - Businesses that qualify for the above filing extension that were not able to file and remit their February sales tax return by the March 16 due date will not be assessed a late filing penalty and interest will not be applied until after October 15, 2020.
 - Interest will continue to apply on all outstanding tax debts established prior to the March remittance deadlines.
 - Businesses will still receive paper returns in the mail or web notice reminders by email for return periods March, April, May, June, July, and August

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SUBJECT	SUMMARY	PROGRAM DETAILS
BUSINESS Workers Compensation Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">WCB of Manitoba is providing assistance to employers by offering no-interest premium deferrals and allowing employers to submit revised payroll estimates for 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Support provided by WCB Manitoba:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Defer premium payments until the end of May.Late payment penalties will be waived until further notice.Extend the payroll reporting deadline until the end of May.Ensure that coverage remains active for accounts that choose to defer payments until the end of October.Clearances will remain in good standing.Employers can request deferred payments by contacting WCB Manitoba:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Email: assessmentservices@wcb.mb.caWeb chat: wcb.mb.ca/tell-us-about-yourselfPhone: 204-954-4505 or toll free 1-855-954-4321, ext. 4505Revised Payroll Estimates:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Businesses that are expecting to see a dramatic change in their payroll compared to what they initially reported to the WCB earlier this year can submit a revised 2020 payroll estimate to the WCB and this year's premium will be adjusted accordinglyRevised payroll estimates can be submitted via email with account number to assessmentservices@wcb.mb.caWCB of Manitoba will continue to monitor the situation and adjust program dates as required. Read more on WCB Manitoba
BUSINESS INDIVIDUAL Employment Standards Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Manitoba government is adding a temporary exception to Employment Standards Regulations to give employers more time to recall employees laid off as a result of COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This temporary amendment ensures that any period of layoff occurring after March 1, 2020, will not be counted toward the period after which a temporary layoff would become a permanent termination.Government of Manitoba Labour Standards – Temporary AmendmentFor questions related to Labour Standards, please visit the Manitoba Employment Standards Branch website

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BUSINESS INDIVIDUAL Manitoba Hydro and Centra Gas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Manitoba Hydro will make payment arrangements for commercial and residential customers experiencing financial difficulty as a result of COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Manitoba Hydro can arrange a flexible payment plan and will suspend late-payment charges for up to six months.If you are unable to pay your bill by your due date, contact Manitoba Hydro to make payment arrangements:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Online through MyBillSend a request via email: credit@hydro.mb.caPhone 204-480-5900 or toll-free at 1-888-624-9376More information
INDIVIDUAL Manitoba Job Restart Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Manitoba Job Restart Program (MJRP) provides a taxable financial benefit to a maximum of \$2,000 to Manitobans.UPDATE: APPLICATIONS ARE CLOSED.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The MJRP provides a taxable financial benefit to a maximum of \$2,000 to Manitobans who:<ul style="list-style-type: none">safely return to work for a cumulative 30 hours/week with one or more eligible employersvoluntarily stop collecting Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), the Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB) or similar COVID-19 financial support programs delivered by the federal governmentIndividuals who return to work for a cumulative 30 hours per week during the period of June 26, 2020 to July 31, 2020 will:<ul style="list-style-type: none">receive \$500 upon enrollment in the MJRPplus receive three additional bi-weekly payments of \$500 upon completion of the required bi-weekly reporting survey for a total taxable benefit of \$2,000For complete eligibility and application information, please visit the Manitoba Job Restart Program websiteApplications open June 26, 2020Deadline to apply was July 31, 2020