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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@fbcc.ca

Read more on government programs, tools, insights and advice on how to navigate your business through COVID-19 on [FBC's online COVID Resource Centre](#)

SUBJECT	SUMMARY	PROGRAM DETAILS
BUSINESS Alberta's "Path Forward"	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Path Forward is a roadmap to help Albertans understand how restrictions will be eased in steps over the coming months. It outlines the sectors that will see gradual restriction changes at each step based on hospitalization benchmarks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please refer to the stages and restrictions outlined in the document below for where your business falls in the relaunch strategy• Each stage of relaunch will depend on the province's ability to keep hospitalization numbers low.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Alberta's Relaunch Strategy○ List of Business and Service Restrictions• The government has released guidelines to assist businesses in understanding what is required of them as they prepare to re-open and safely resume operations:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Alberta Biz-Connect Guidance

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SUBJECT

SUMMARY

PROGRAM DETAILS

BUSINESS
Small and Medium
Enterprise Relaunch
Grant

- The Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant offers financial assistance to Alberta organizations (businesses, cooperatives and non-profits) that were ordered to close or curtail operations, and that experienced a revenue reduction of at least 30%, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Applications will be accepted until March 31, 2021**

- The Relaunch Grant will provide:
 - Up to \$20,000 in funding for organizations established before February 29, 2020, including unregistered sole proprietors.
 - Up to \$15,000 in funding for new organizations which began operations between March 1 and October 31, 2020, including unregistered sole proprietors.
- These funds can be used for implementing measures to minimize the risk of virus transmission (physical barriers, personal protective equipment, and disinfecting supplies), rent, employee wages or replacing inventory.
- The grant is a taxable benefit and must be declared on your tax returns.
- Payments:
 - Existing, eligible organizations will receive up to \$20,000 made in two payments
 - New, eligible organizations will receive up to \$15,000 in one payment
- Eligibility for Alberta businesses co-ops and non-profits
 - Must be a legal entity registered and in good standing in Alberta of February 29, 2020, or October 31, 2020 (registered under Corporation, Partnership, Companies, Societies, Agricultural Societies, or Cooperatives Acts) or be a Sole Proprietor with a tradename registered under the Partnership Act
 - Maintain a permanent establishment in Alberta
 - Be carrying on business/operations or were eligible to carry on business/operations in Alberta on February 29, 2020 or October 31, 2020 (new organizations only).
 - Have less than 500 employees (full-time, part-time, contract)
 - Have been ordered to temporarily close or curtail operations through a COVID-19 public health order.
 - Have experienced a reduction in revenue of at least 30% as a result of the COVID-19 public health orders.
 - Demonstrating revenue reductions vary based on the dates a business commenced operations or if the business operates seasonally. Refer to [Alberta Relaunch Grant site](#) for full details

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SUBJECT

SUMMARY

PROGRAM DETAILS

BUSINESS
Small and Medium
Enterprise Relaunch
Grant (continued)

- The Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant offers financial assistance to Alberta organizations (businesses, cooperatives and non-profits) that were ordered to close or curtail operations, and that experienced a revenue reduction of at least 30%, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Applications will be accepted until March 31, 2021**

- *Continued from previous page*
 - Are open or plan to reopen as public health orders are lifted through Alberta's phased relaunch.
 - May have received payments, grants, or amounts directly from other assistance programs, including but not limited to
 - Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)
 - Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)
 - Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS)
 - [Full list available online](#)
- Complete [Program Guidelines](#) (PDF Updated February 2021)
- How to apply (refer to [Application Companion Guide](#) – PDF):
- Businesses, cooperatives and non-profits from all regions of the province may apply at any time until application intake for the program closes.
- Deadline to apply is March 31, 2021
 - Applicants who have not yet applied can apply for both their first and second payments using a single application
- Applications can be submitted online through the [application portal](#)
 - In order to access the application portal, applicants must have a [My Alberta Digital ID \(MADI\) user account](#) with a secure login name and password.
- The program aims to process applications and issue payments within 10 business days following submission.
 - Application status will be displayed on the main page of the [application portal](#) (log in to view status)
- Approved applicants will receive funds via Electronic Fund Transfer directly into their bank account.
- Please ensure the banking information provided at the time of application is accurate to avoid payment delays.
- Refer to the step-by-step instructions on how to check the status of your application using the [Relaunch Companion Guide](#) (PDF)
- For questions or to connect with Small and Medium Enterprise Support program staff, email: SMErelaunch.program@gov.ab.ca
- [FBC Summary and Details](#)

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SUBJECT	SUMMARY	PROGRAM DETAILS
BUSINESS Enhanced COVID-19 Business Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Benefit will provide payments of up to \$10,000 to eligible small and medium businesses most affected by the pandemic and ongoing public health restrictions.Applications will open April 15th, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The benefit will provide funding to businesses that have experienced a revenue reduction of at least 60%.Payments will be calculated based on 15% of the eligible business's monthly revenue, up to a maximum of \$10,000To be eligible for the Enhanced COVID-19 Business Benefit, applicants must:<ul style="list-style-type: none">be a business, cooperative or non-profit organizations with fewer than 500 employeesdemonstrate a revenue reduction of at least 60%report the levels of provincial and federal support received, to ensure no more than 80% of revenue was covered by these supportsApplication details will be provided closer to launch dateGovernment of Alberta news release can be accessed online
BUSINESS WCB Premium Deferral Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Small, medium, and large private sector employers can defer WCB premium payments until 2021.UPDATE: Deferred premiums are payable beginning January 1, 2021.Employers will have until March 1, 2021 to pay.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All private sector employers will have their 2020 WCB premiums deferred to 2021.When invoicing for 2020 premiums is resumed in 2021, small- and medium-sized private sector employers will have 50 per cent of their 2020 premiums waived.No interest charges will apply on unpaid balances for 2020.Payments already made towards 2020 premiums will be automatically refunded to employers (there is no need to apply).More information can be found on WCB Alberta onlineWCB Fact Sheet for Employers

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SUBJECT	SUMMARY	PROGRAM DETAILS
BUSINESS INDIVIDUAL Utility Payment Deferral	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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.This program ended June 18, 2020. See below for information on deferral repayment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This program ran from March 18, 2020 to June 18, 2020Details provided for reference only:You are eligible if you are experiencing financial hardship and cannot make your regular payments as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, you:<ul style="list-style-type: none">have been diagnosed with COVID-19have been directed by health authorities to self-isolatehave lost your jobare taking care of a family memberAlbertans in arrears or behind in payments before the deferral program launched on March 18 are also eligible for a deferralCall your utility provider directly to arrange for a 90-day deferral on all payments. You will need your account information.After June 19, the agreed upon repayment plan will be implementedIn situations where rent and utilities are combined, contact your landlord directly to discuss the circumstancesFBC Summary and Details
BUSINESS INDIVIDUAL Utility Payment Deferral Repayment information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Residential, farm and small commercial customers that deferred their utility payments and continue to experience financial hardship related to COVID-19 will have until June 18, 2021 to repay their deferred payments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consumers and businesses in the utility deferral payment program will have until June 18, 2021 to repay their deferred payments.Default repayment plan is 12 equal monthly installmentsParticipants may begin to see the first of these instalments on their next bill.If this repayment plan does not work with your financial situation, you can contact your utility provider to discuss an alternate repayment plan.Provided you meet the terms of your repayment plan, you will not pay interest on deferred payments.If you were in arrears on payments before the deferral program, any outstanding utility charges will still need to be repaid.If you require support negotiating a repayment plan that fits your budget or in resolving any service or billing issues, contact the Utilities Consumer Advocate.

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SUBJECT	SUMMARY	PROGRAM DETAILS
INDIVIDUAL Working Parents Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To support working parents who need and have paid for childcare so they can continue working during the pandemic, the Alberta government is providing the Working Parents Benefit, a one-time payment of \$561 per child.Families can apply starting March 1, 2021Applications close March 31, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You may be eligible to apply if:<ul style="list-style-type: none">you had a household income of \$100,000 or less in the 2020 tax yearyou are a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident living in Albertayou are the parent or legal guardian of a child who was born on or after February 29, 2008you paid \$561 per child or more for 3 months of childcare between April 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020 (receipts required)the child care you paid for was provided by (receipts, bills or invoices required) someone other than the child's father or mother, your spouse or common law partner, or someone who is dependent on you or dependent on your spouse or common law partner (see factsheet for details)you required the child care above because you were working or attending school at a designated educational institutionOnly one parent or legal guardian may apply for each child. In cases where both parents or guardians apply and meet the eligibility criteria, the payment will be made to the first applicant.The benefit is not taxable. However, if you or your partner claim childcare expense deduction on your tax return, you are required to deduct the Working Parents Benefit you received from the childcare expenses you are claiming in your 2020 income tax returnHow to apply:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Applicants will need a MyAlberta Digital ID accountApplications can be submitted online through the Working Parents Benefit PortalAs of March 6, 2021, Albertans from any region may submit their application (until closing date of March 31, 2021)It may take up to 30 business days for your application to be processed.

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SUBJECT	SUMMARY	PROGRAM DETAILS
INDIVIDUAL Critical Worker Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A one-time payment of \$1,200 to recognize Alberta's critical workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.• It is available to workers in the public healthcare, social services, education sectors and those in the private sector who deliver critical basic services to Albertans, or support food and medical supply chains.• Applications will remain open until Friday, March 19, 2021.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eligible workers will receive a \$1,200 benefit distributed through their employers.• Eligibility varies based on sector. Please review eligibility and application requirements online:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The Government of Alberta is working directly with healthcare, social services, and education sector employers to distribute the benefit to eligible workers.• Private sector employers must apply on behalf of their eligible employees. Private sector employees must:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ earn \$25 per hour or less○ have worked at least 300 hours between the period of October 12, 2020 and January 31, 2021○ be located and working in Alberta• Workers listed in the following private sectors are eligible. Please review specific eligibility requirements by sector online:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Retail – grocery, pharmacy and gas○ Food manufacturing○ Truck transportation of food and medical supplies○ Warehouse and storage of food and medical supplies○ Private health clinics○ Private sector workers in First Nations communities• Included in the list of private sector occupations not eligible to receive the benefit are:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ food take-out delivery workers○ post office workers○ bicycle messengers○ business owners, contractors, self-employed persons and sole proprietors○ those working in liquor stores and hardware stores• Private Sector Application Portal• Application Portal Guide (PDF)• In order to access the application portal, you must have a MyAlberta Digital Business ID (MADI-B)