FINANCIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO CANADIANS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Esther Doucette
Social Worker, University of Ottawa Heart Institute
Cardiac Rehabilitation program
This benefit is available for those who have been unable to work due to the pandemic. Includes employed and self-employed people.

- Max benefit of $2000
- If you expect to earn less than $1000 in employment or self employment income for at least 14 days in a row during a 4-week period
- You must re-apply every 4 weeks if you are still not working

Eligibility restrictions:

- Already receiving/submitted an application for Employment insurance: regular or sick benefits
- If you quit your job
- Earned less than $5000 in the past 12 months
Provides employers with a subsidy of 75% of employee wages for up to 24 weeks:

• This may allow many employers to rehire staff who have been laid off
• Not available to public institutions
• Dependent on how much of a reduction in revenue that your company/organization has experienced.
• www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/subsidy/emergency-wage-subsidy/cews-who-eligible-employer.html
Provides financial support to post-secondary students, and recent post-secondary and high school graduates who are unable to find work due to COVID-19.

- For students who are not eligible for CERB or EI
- $1250 for each 4-week period / $2000 if you have dependents
- You must be able to work and be looking for work
- $750 top up a month if you are disabled or if you have a child under the age of 12 or another dependent
Canadians who normally receive the CCB will have received a one-time payment increase of an **extra $300 for each child** on May 20, 2020.

- Based on 2018 tax return as 2019 tax returns may be assessed until September
- Based on income; max $300 per child
The minimum required withdrawal for all types of registered retirement income funds (RRIFs) has been reduced by 25% for the year 2020.
EI: SICK BENEFIT
EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

If you are unable to work due to illness you should apply for EI sick benefits

- 15 week benefit
- 55% of your income up to a maximum of $573/wk
- You can not be on EI sick benefits and CERB at the same time
- Verify if your employer has a sick leave program before you apply for EI
HEARTWISE WEBINAR SERIES: THE COVID EDITION

ODSP: Ontario Disability Support Payment

Additional support offered due to COVID-19:
- $100 single person
- $200 for families
- Extended for May, June and July

Call: 1-888-444-2412
ODSP.EmergencyBenefit@Ontario.ca
For Ontario residents who have high prescription drug costs in relation to their net household income.

Eligibility:
• Valid Ontario Health Insurance (OHIP) and are a resident of Ontario
• Not eligible if you have drug coverage under the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Program

Deductible is based on your income:
• Deductible is divided into equal portions and paid quarterly
If eligible, the dispensing fee will drop to $2 (from $6.11). No annual deductible (typically $100)

Eligibility:
- Ontario seniors (over the age of 65)
- Living alone with an income less than $19,300
- Living with a spouse, combined income of less than/equal to $32,300
Eligibility:

- There has been a significant change in the household income. The 2019 or 2020 household income must be at least 10% different than the 2018 household income,
- Your annual deductible for the 2019/20 Program Year has not been met yet
OVERALL CONSIDERATIONS

• Benefits may not be taxable but they must be reported as an income in 2020
• CRA will be investigating for overpayments and fraudulence.
HEARTWISE WEBINAR SERIES

QUESTIONS?

All sessions will be recorded and available on our Prevention and Wellness Centre (PWC) website.

PWC.OTTAWAHEART.CA

Please email heartwisewebinar@ottawaheart.ca if you have any questions or ideas for additional topics.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING!