



## Summer 2021 COVID-19 Benefits: Resources

### As a TA, can I apply for Employment Insurance?

As a TA, you may qualify for Employment Insurance (EI). There have been temporary changes due to COVID-19 to EI. More information can be accessed here:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/notice-covid-19.html>

For new EI claims established between September 27, 2020 and September 25, 2021, you will receive a minimum benefit rate of \$500 per week or \$300 per week for extended parental benefits, less applicable taxes

If you are Working While on Claim, the amount you receive will vary as you can keep 50 cents of your benefits for every dollar you earn, up to 90 percent of your weekly earnings used to calculate your benefit rate. Above this cap, your EI benefits are deducted dollar-for-dollar.

Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application/transition/ei-questions.html>

### How many hours should I have worked to be eligible for Employment Insurance?

The rules have been relaxed with Covid-19 and you need only 120 insured hours to qualify for benefits.

Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-regular-benefit/eligibility.html# covid19-changes>

### I am an international student TA, can I apply for Employment Insurance?

If you are residing in Canada, have a SIN number and have filed taxes you may qualify for EI. Do consult the information above and call up the CRA. More information can be accessed here

as to how to get in touch with the CRA: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/contact/ei-individual.html>

### What about Canada Recovery Benefit?

If you don't qualify for Employment Insurance, you can apply for the Canada Recovery Benefit. You need to be residing in Canada, have a SIN number and have filed taxes.

*(Continued Below)*

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The Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) gives income support to employed and self-employed individuals who are directly affected by COVID-19 and are not entitled to Employment Insurance (EI) benefits. The CRB is administered by the Canada Revenue Agency.

If you are eligible for the CRB, you can receive \$1,000 (\$900 after taxes withheld) for a 2-week period.

If your situation continues past 2 weeks, you need to apply again. You may apply for up to a total of 13 eligibility periods (26 weeks) between September 27, 2020, and September 25, 2021.

Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/coronavirus-covid19/financial-assistance.html>

### **How do I access these benefits?**

You can access these benefits through your CRA account.

You can send them a request for information through this website:

<https://eservices.canada.ca/en/service/>

Or you can call them: 1-800-206-7218 (Have your SIN and access code on hand)

Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/contact/ei-individual.html>

We have gathered these resources in order to make information more accessible. We are still in the process of gathering more detail which we will make available as we gain more information.

We urge you to contact CRA to clarify your individual cases as the eligibility may differ according to your particular situation.

In Solidarity,  
PSAC Local 610