



L O C A L 1 1 5

PLEASE NOTE:
This information will be updated as new details become available.

Posted March 24, 2020

EMPLOYMENT COVID-19 Information for Members

The COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic may impact your employment. Below are some of the different situations you may face and how to access support.

Laid-off for non-medical reasons

Apply for EI as normal

- Need 700 hours work in past year
- Record of Employment (ROE) required
- Pays up to \$573/week

Don't qualify for EI

- You can access the new Emergency Support Benefit
- Application details available in April

Self-isolating due to COVID-19 exposure

- You can access EI Sickness Benefits for your 14-day isolation
- After completing the online form, call **1-833-381-2725** to have the one-week waiting period waived
- No sick note required
- Can apply after quarantine & benefits will be backdated

COVID-19 diagnosis but still employed?

No-wait EI Sickness Benefits for up to 15 weeks

- After completing the online form, call **1-833-381-2725** to have the one-week waiting period waived
- No sick note required
- Have SIN #, first & last day worked, pay stub with highest 2-week pay from the last year
- Have a blank cheque or online bank account handy for info to apply for direct deposit
- Pays \$450/week

Worksafe BC

- If you contracted COVID-19 at work, call Worksafe BC at **1-888-967-5377**

Caring for family & can't work

Access the Emergency Care Benefit

- \$450/week for up to 15 weeks
- Application details available in April

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS COVID-19 Information for Members

The COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic has altered life for many members. Below are some supports IUOE Local 115, governments and others have put in place to support you. For information relating to work impacts, please see our **Employment bulletin**.

Supporting your mental health

- You can access 12, one-hour sessions with mental health or financial management professionals through Employee and Family Member Benefits from Homewood Health. Contact **1-800-663-1142** or **homewoodhealth.com**
- For the duration of the pandemic, your family can access \$2,000 in psychologist, counselling and psychiatric support through Pacific Blue Cross. Submit receipts as normal.

Easing cashflow challenges

- Income tax filing deadline extended to June 1
- Deadline to make income tax payments extended until September 1
- Impacted Community Savings members are eligible for loan deferrals
- Many banks will allow you to defer mortgage payments by up to six months
- New BC Emergency Benefit of \$1,000 tax free for people whose employment is impacted
- BC Climate Change Tax Credit will be raised to up to \$218 per adult and \$64 per child, payable in July
- BC Hydro bills may be deferred up to six months
- Student loan payments are deferred until September 30, 2020
- ICBC monthly payments may be deferred up to 90 days without penalty. Visit **icbc.com** or call **604-661-2723** or **1-800-665-6442**. Note driver's license and auto insurance renewals can now be done online or by phone.
- The federal government will be making funds available for people who need to borrow money to pay bills. Details to come.