



On Assistance

After you are approved for income assistance, you will receive:

- An income assistance rate based on your situation and the size of your family unit. For example, you could get:
 - Up to \$710.00 if you are single
 - Up to \$977.22 if you and your spouse are both on assistance
 - Up to \$1,201.06 if you and your spouse are both on assistance and have two children
- Premium-free medical services plan coverage
- No-deductible PharmaCare prescription coverage

Depending on your circumstances, you may also get other expenses covered. If you have children, you'll keep basic health coverage. This includes premium-free medical services plan and 100 per cent coverage under PharmaCare for a full year after you leave income assistance for employment.

Earning Exemption

Effective October 1, 2017, the earnings exemption for people on income assistance are:

- For a single person receiving income assistance: \$400.00 a month
- For families with children: \$600.00 a month
- For families with a child with a disability: \$700.00 a month
- For a person in the Persons with Persistent Multiple Barriers category: \$700.00 a month

What You Need to Do Each Month

Action Your Employment Plan

If you are on income assistance and able to work, you will have to complete an employment plan. The activities in your plan will help you become self-supporting, if you are able.

In certain circumstances, you may not have to seek work while on income assistance. If you think you shouldn't have to complete an employment plan, call 1 866 866-0800 or visit your local office.

Some people can't work because they have persistent and multiple barriers to employment. If this applies to you, you might be able to get extra support while you're on income assistance.

Submit Your Monthly Report

When you are on income assistance, you must complete the monthly report form each month. This form is also known as the “cheque stub”. It is due by the fifth of each month.

The monthly report is a legal document that tells the government you are still in need. We'll verify the information with private, provincial and federal agencies. We'll then use this information to determine your eligibility or the amount of your next assistance cheque.

You can submit your monthly report using [My Self Serve](#). Or, you can complete the manual [monthly report \(PDF\)](#) and either [drop it off at your local office](#) or [mail it in](#) each month.

My Self Serve

[Use My Self Serve to:](#)

- Apply for income or disability assistance
- Receive and reply to messages about your case
- Make service requests
- Track the status of your requests
- Submit your monthly report without having to go to an office
- Find out what you are eligible to receive on the next payment date
- Track your annual earnings exemption if you are on disability assistance
- Monitor and sign your employment plans

[Find out more about My Self Serve.](#)

Related Forms

- [Monthly Report or “stub” \(PDF\)](#)
- [Request for Non-Local Medical Transportation Assistance \(PDF\)](#)
- [Self-Employment Program Monthly Reporting Worksheet \(PDF\)](#)
- [Direct Deposit Request \(PDF\)](#)
- [Consent to Disclosure of Information \(PDF\)](#)
- [Child in the Home of a Relative Screening Consent \(PDF\)](#)
- [Shelter Information \(PDF\)](#)

Policy & Legislation

Use the [BCEA Policy & Procedure Manual](#) to find out more about:

- [Monthly reporting](#)
- [Support, shelter & special care facilities](#)
- [Income assistance rate table](#)

Visit BC Laws for the legislation:

- [Employment and Assistance Act and Regulations](#)
- [Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act and Regulations](#)

Contact Information

Get help and answers to your questions at your local office or:

Toll Free:

1 866 866-0800

Did you find what you were looking for?

Yes

No