



Newcomers, you could get benefits and credits!



If you are a resident of Canada for income tax purposes, there are benefit and credit payments you could get.

Are you a resident of Canada for income tax purposes?

Your residency status is separate and different from your immigration status. You become a resident of Canada for income tax purposes when you establish significant residential ties in Canada. You usually establish these ties on the date you arrive in Canada.

Residential ties in Canada include:

- a home in Canada
- a spouse or common-law partner in Canada
- dependants in Canada

To determine your residency status, go to canada.ca/cra-determining-residency-status. If you would like to have the Canada Revenue Agency's (CRA) opinion on your residency status, fill out Form NR74, Determination of Residency Status (Entering Canada), and send it to the CRA.

Benefits and credits

Canada child benefit – Up to **\$6,639** per year for each child under the age of 6, and up to **\$5,602** per year for each child aged 6 to 17.

GST/HST credit – Up to **\$580** per year, plus **\$153** per year for each child under the age of 19.

You could also get any related provincial or territorial payments.

How can you get benefit and credit payments?

Apply for benefits and credits as soon as you get your social insurance number from Service Canada.

Fill out the following forms and send them to the CRA with all the required supporting documents:

- Form RC66, Canada Child Benefits Application
- Form RC66SCH, Status in Canada/Statement of Income
- Form RC151, GST/HST Credit Application for Individuals Who Become Residents of Canada (if you are not applying for the Canada child benefit)

How do you continue getting your payments?

Do your taxes

As a resident of Canada, you need to do your taxes every year to continue getting your payments, even if you have no income or you lived in Canada for only part of the year. The CRA uses the information from your income tax and benefit return to calculate your payment amounts. If you have a spouse or common-law partner who is a resident of Canada, they also have to do their taxes every year.

Keep your personal information up to date

Changes to your personal information such as your marital status, the number of children in your care, and your address directly affect your benefit payments. To avoid delays and incorrect payments, update your personal information with the CRA.

Is the CRA asking for documents?

After you apply for benefits, the CRA may ask you for documents to confirm the information they have on file about you. If you cannot provide the documents, call the CRA at the number on the letter. They can suggest other documents you could send instead, and give you more time to answer.

If you don't answer the letter, your benefit and credit payments could stop.

Need help?

Get your taxes done for free!

If you have a modest income and a simple tax situation, a volunteer could do your taxes for you at one of our free tax clinics. For more information and to find a tax clinic near you, go to canada.ca/taxes-help or call the CRA.

Authorize a representative

You can give permission to another person (such as a family member, a friend, or an accountant) to communicate with the CRA for you. Fill out Form T1013, Authorizing or Cancelling a Representative, and send it to the CRA. You don't need to authorize a representative if someone is only doing your taxes.

For more information

Online

Tax information for newcomers
canada.ca/taxes-newcomers

Child and family benefits
canada.ca/child-family-benefits

CRA forms and publications
canada.ca/cra-forms

Get ready to do your taxes
canada.ca/taxes-get-ready

By phone

To ask about benefits
1-800-387-1193

For other questions and to get forms
1-800-959-8281

Social insurance number (Service Canada)
1-800-206-7218