

Subject: Treatment of Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

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BACKGROUND:

The Government of Canada has announced a series of benefits for relief for Canadians during the COVID-19 pandemic. Multiple benefits have been consolidated into one benefit effective March 25th, 2020. The Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) will provide funding for up to four months for people who are not eligible for Employment Insurance or are off work and without an income as a result of COVID-19.

Due to the unique circumstances, the CERB will be considered fully exempt as income and as a liquid asset. Any assets purchased with these funds are also exempt. All other income such as Employment Insurance must be reported as outlined in policy.

INTENT:

To ensure Learner Income Support policy accurately reflects the treatment of CERB payments. A [Frequently Asked Questions document](#) has also been created to assist learners in determining how this change impacts them.

POLICY:

The following Ministerial Orders have been posted:

[Ministerial Order 2020-24 \(Labour and Immigration\)](#)

[Ministerial Order 104/2020 \(Advanced Education\)](#)

The following learner policies have been updated:

[Learner Policy & Procedures - Asset Exemptions](#)

[Learner Policy & Procedures - 100% Exempt Income](#)