COVID-19 Measures

Answers to your questions on paying back the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

Why you would send the CERB back?

You must repay the CERB if you no longer meet the eligibility requirements for any 4-week period you received it. Your situation may have changed since you first applied, or you may have made an honest mistake when applying. This could happen if:

- You applied for the CERB but later realize you’re not eligible.
- You applied for and got a CERB payment from both the CRA and EI/Service Canada for the same eligibility period.
- You receive social assistance benefits and realize the CERB will affect your other benefits.
- You applied for the CERB twice in one period.
- You earned more employment or self-employment income than expected in the period(s) you applied for.

Still not sure if you need to repay the CERB?
Go to return or repay a payment (canada.ca/repay-cerb) or call 1-833-966-2099.

Before you repay the CERB

Make sure you know which department you got your CERB from.

- If you got the CERB from the CRA, you must repay it to the CRA.
- If you got the CERB from Service Canada (EI), you must repay it to Service Canada.

Not sure whether you got your CERB payment from the CRA or Service Canada?
Go to return or repay a payment (canada.ca/repay-cerb) or call 1-833-966-2099.
How to repay the CERB to the CRA

To repay the CERB to the CRA, choose one of the following options:

- **Online:** using CRA My Account
- **Online banking:** with your financial institution
- **By mail:** mail a cheque (new or the original if you have it) or money order to the CRA. **Do not send cash through the mail.**
  
  If you are sending a new cheque or money order:
  - Make payment out to “Receiver General for Canada”
  - Indicate it is for “Repayment of CERB”
  - Include your Social Insurance Number (SIN)

How to repay the CERB to Service Canada

To repay the CERB to Service Canada, choose one of the following options:

- **Online banking:** with your financial institution
- **In person:** at your financial institution
- **By mail:** mail a cheque or money order to Service Canada
  
  Do not send cash through the mail

  If you are sending a new cheque or money order:
  - Make your payment out to: “Receiver General for Canada.”
  - Write your SIN on the front of your cheque or money order.
  - Indicate it is for “Repayment of CERB.”

For more information go to
return or repay a payment (canada.ca/repay-cerb)

Impact on your taxes

The CERB is taxable and you will need to report any payments you received on next year’s income tax return. This means you may need to pay taxes on the CERB you received since no tax was deducted when you received the CERB. You will receive a tax slip with the amount of CERB you receive for the 2020 tax year. If you repay the CERB, you won’t be issued a tax slip for that payment.

To ensure that we don’t issue slips improperly, you need to repay any CERB you should not have received before December 31, 2020.

Stay connected

To get updates on the CERB and other benefits, follow:

- [canada.ca/coronavirus](https://www.canada.ca/coronavirus)
- [CanRevAgency](https://www.canada.ca/coronavirus)
- [ESDC.GC](https://www.canada.ca/coronavirus)
- [ECDC_GC](https://www.canada.ca/coronavirus)