

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Government Supports for Nova Scotia Tourism Businesses

Federal Programs

Many programs have recently changed their eligibility criteria or deadlines, and may now be applicable to your situation. Please read on for details.

Updated: May 12, 2021

NEW: Highly Affected Sectors Credit Availability Program (HASCAP)



What: Loans between \$25,000 and \$1 million to cover operational cash flow needs. The loans feature a 4% interest rate, a repayment term of up to 10 years, and up to a 12 month postponement of principal payments.

Who: Small & medium-sized businesses that have seen their revenues decrease by 50% or more due to COVID-19.

Application Deadline: June 30, 2021

More info: <https://www.bdc.ca/en/special-support/hascap>

UPDATED: Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS)



What: Commercial rent or property expenses (property taxes, property insurance and insurance on commercial mortgages) support of up to 65%. NEW: Proposed program extension until June 5, 2021.

Who: Qualifying businesses affected by COVID-19 can apply directly. Landlord participation is not required.

More info: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/subsidy/emergency-rent-subsidy.html>

UPDATED: CERS Lockdown Support



What: Additional commercial rent or property expenses of 25%. NEW: Proposed program extension until June 5, 2021.

Who: Businesses significantly affected by a public health order for a week or more.

More info: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/subsidy/emergency-rent-subsidy.html>

UPDATED: Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)



What: Interest-free loans of up to \$60,000, of which a total of \$20,000 will be forgiven if the balance of the loan is repaid by December 31, 2022.

Who: Small businesses who have seen a drop in revenue due to COVID-19. NEW: Applicants can now use a personal banking account.

Application Deadline: June 30, 2021

More info: <https://ceba-cuec.ca/>

UPDATED: Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)



What: Subsidy of up to 75% of an employee's wages for qualifying eligible employers to keep and re-hire employees and avoid layoffs. NEW: Proposed program extension until June 5, 2021.

Who: Businesses who have seen a drop in revenue due to COVID-19.

More info: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/subsidy/emergency-wage-subsidy.html>

UPDATED: Regional Relief & Recovery Fund (RRRF)



What: Help for businesses unable to access other support measures—25% of overall funding reserved for tourism sector

Who: Businesses that have applied for federal relief measures and have not been able to secure funds; or accessed COVID-19 relief measures and continue to experience hardship.

More info: <https://www.canada.ca/en/atlantic-canada-opportunities/campaigns/covid19/rrrf.html>

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EDC Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP) Guarantee



What: New operating lines of credit or new term loans support cash flow needs for small & medium-sized enterprises

Who: Exporting & non-exporting businesses impacted by COVID-19 who were financially viable prior to the current economic situation

More info: <https://www.edc.ca/en/solutions/working-capital/bcap-guarantee.html>

Black Entrepreneurship Fund



What: Loans of up to \$250,000 through the Black Entrepreneurship Loan Fund

Who: Black business owners and entrepreneurs

Note: The Loan Fund will start accepting applications in May 2021.

More info: https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/150.nsf/eng/h_00000.html

Support For Indigenous Businesses



What: Interest-free loans up to \$40,000 and a non-repayable contribution up to \$20,000

Who: Small & medium Indigenous businesses that are current or former clients of an Aboriginal Financial Institution

More info: <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1588079295625/1588079326171>

Federal Resources

Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)



What: Income support of \$500 per week for up to 38 weeks

Who: Income support for employed or self-employed individuals who are not eligible for Employment Insurance (EI)

Deadline: September 25, 2021

More info: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/recovery-benefit/crb-how-apply.html>

COVID-19 Work-Sharing Program



What: Help for employers and employees to avoid layoffs when there is a temporary decrease in business activity beyond the control of the employer

Who: Year-round businesses in operation for at least one year

Deadline: NEW: September 26, 2021

More info: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/work-sharing/notice-covid-19.html>

Managing Your Business During COVID-19



Resources and assistance for workplaces and businesses in considering risks to employees, customers, and clients during COVID-19

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/business/maintaining-your-business2.html>

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Updated: May 12, 2021

Small Business Impact Grant 3



What: A grant of up to \$5,000 to eligible businesses directly affected by public health measures introduced in April 2021

Who: Eligible businesses include dine-in restaurants & drinking establishments, gyms & fitness establishments, independent retailers with a physical location, personal services businesses & organizations offering live performing arts

More info: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/small-business-impact-grant/>

Small Business Real Property Tax Rebate Program

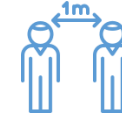


What: A one-time rebate of \$1,000 or 50% of property taxes paid for the last 6 months of the 2020-21 tax year

Who: Dine-in restaurants & drinking establishments, gyms and fitness establishments, and personal service businesses like salons and spas

More info: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/small-business-real-property-tax-rebate/>

Tourism Accommodations Real Property Tax Rebate Program – Part 2



What: A one-time 50% rebate on the first 6 months of their commercial property taxes paid for 2021-2022.

Who: Eligible tourism accommodation operators with an accommodation that has 5 or more rooms available for rent and is assessed as a commercial property.

More info: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/tourism-accommodations-real-property-tax-rebate-program/>

Provincial Resources

Small Business Loan Guarantee Program



What: Term loans, working capital and lines of credit up to \$500,000

Who: All businesses except residential and commercial real estate, beverage rooms and taverns

More info: <http://www.novascotia.coop/programs/small-business-loan-guarantee-program/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Restrictions and Guidance



Up-to-date public health directives that everyone in Nova Scotia needs to follow to help contain the spread of COVID-19

<https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/restrictions-and-guidance/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Travel



Up-to-date travel guidance and restrictions, including the Nova Scotia Safe Check-in Form and the process for entering Nova Scotia

<https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/travel/>

Subscribe to our InTouch newsletter to receive updates on Tourism Nova Scotia's programs, partnership opportunities, marketing activities, research, and resources, as well as industry success stories and professional development opportunities. Visit www.tourismns.ca/news-events/intouch-blog to learn more.

Tourism Nova Scotia Resources

Updated: May 12, 2021

Nova Scotia Experience Toolkit



What: Free videos, worksheets, and tip sheets to help develop and market new tourism experiences

Who: Any Nova Scotian tourism business or organization

More info: <https://tourismns.ca/development/experience-development/experience-toolkit>

Promote Your Business



What: Work with Tourism Nova Scotia to promote your business through free listings, social media and other advertising opportunities.

Who: Any Nova Scotian tourism business or organization

More info: <https://tourismns.ca/promoteyourbusiness>

Tourism Nova Scotia Webinar Series



What: Free training and information to adapt to the evolving tourism environment and rebuild and recover following the pandemic

Who: Any Nova Scotian tourism business or organization

More info: <https://tourismns.ca/webinar-series>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Tourism Recovery Research and Marketing Approach



Research, insights, and marketing information to show what tourism recovery could look like in Nova Scotia

<https://tourismns.ca/covid-19-updates-and-resources/covid-19-tourism-recovery-research-and-marketing-approach>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Updates for the Tourism Industry



Up-to-date COVID-19 information related to the tourism industry and business operations

<https://tourismns.ca/coronavirus>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Tourism Industry Frequently Asked Questions



Answers to frequently asked questions for tourism businesses, including travel and border restrictions, operational requirements, and support programs

<https://tourismns.ca/covid-19-updates-and-resources/covid-19-tourism-industry-frequently-asked-questions>