



## Government Of Alberta Critical Worker Benefit Program Frequently Asked Questions

Note: The following Q & A is based on the Government of Alberta information and is subject to change.

### **Q. What is the Critical Worker Benefit Program?**

A. This is a Government of Alberta Program designed to “recognize the service of select workers identified as critical for the delivery of basic services to Albertans in response to the COVID -19 pandemic.”. The Program is available to all qualified Employers. It includes a one-time lump sum payment of \$1200 based on specific eligibility criteria.

### **Q. What is the process to access the Critical Worker Benefit Program?**

A. The Employer submits a Government of Alberta program application form that includes a list of all eligible employees based on the employers’ payroll data. Once the application is submitted, the Government of Alberta will review the application and decide if the application is approved. The Employer will not make any of the payments until the application is approved.

### **Q. What employee information is included in the application?**

A. For all eligible employees, AgeCare will be disclosing the following personal information: full name, date of birth, social insurance number, hours paid during the eligibility period. The disclosure of this information will comply with all legislative privacy requirements, ensuring strict confidentiality.

### **Q. 4 What ‘role categories’ are included in the Program?**

A. The following role categories are included in the Program:

- Administrative Services
- Allied Health
- Non-clinical Support Services
- Nursing (**Note:** employees receiving the \$2/hour wage top-up are not included)
- Patient Care Support Worker



**Q. What are the eligibility criteria for an AgeCare employee to get the \$1200. payment?**

A. The eligibility criteria includes all employees that have:

- Worked for AgeCare between October 12, 2020 – January 31, 2021.
- Been paid a minimum of 300 hours, including regular time, overtime, paid leaves, and paid sick time.
- The 300 minimum hours paid must have been from one Employer, i.e., AgeCare.

An employee will **not** be eligible for the payment if they:

- Are considered Management staff.
- Are receiving the Health Care Aide (HCA) \$2/hour wage top-up.

**Q. How is the \$1200. payment paid?**

A. Once approved, AgeCare will process the payment via the payroll system. The \$1200 payment is subject to deductions including, tax, Canada Pension Plan (CPP), and Employment Insurance (EI).

**Q. When will the payment be made?**

A. The Government Of Alberta application deadline is March 31, 2021. AgeCare is working as quickly as possible to submit our application. There is no information on how soon the Government will review and approve applications once submitted.

**Q. What is the review process of an Employers' application?**

A. All Employers are subject to a Government audit of all information submitted as part of the application payroll.