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Infectious Disease Emergency Leave, COVID-19 period extended to September 25th, 2021

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ontario government made a [regulation](#) that changed certain Employment Standards Act (ESA) rules during the “COVID-19 period”. **This regulation extended the COVID-19 period to September 25th, 2021, at which time the regulation will end.**

- During the COVID-19 period (**March 1st, 2020 to September 25th, 2021**), a non-unionized employee is “deemed” (or considered to be) on a job-protected [infectious disease emergency leave](#) if their employer has temporarily reduced or eliminated their hours of work because of COVID-19.
- Employees do not have a right to this leave and to not attend work during hours the employer *does* schedule them to work, solely because the employer has otherwise temporarily reduced the employee’s hours.
- Although an employee is **deemed** to be on infectious disease emergency leave, the employee may qualify for, and take, the infectious disease emergency leave under one of the other conditions that qualify an employee for the leave.
- Beginning on **September 25th, 2021** employees will no longer be deemed to be on [infectious disease emergency leave](#) and the ESA’s regular rules around [temporary layoff](#) resume. For practical purposes, an employee’s temporary layoff clock re-sets on **September 25th, 2021**.

Note that even though the COVID-19 period ends on September 25th, 2021 and non-unionized employees will no longer be **deemed** after September 25th, 2021 to be on infectious disease emergency leave when their hours of work are temporarily reduced or temporarily eliminated by their employer for reasons related to COVID-19, **unionized and non-unionized employees may continue to be eligible to take infectious disease emergency leave after September 25th, 2021 if they are not performing the duties of their position for certain reasons related to COVID-19. Refer to the [Government of Ontario’s Infectious Disease Emergency Leave website](#) for more details.**

Source: www.ontario.ca

COVID-19 Worker Income Protection Benefit

The Ontario government has updated the COVID-19 Worker Income Protection Benefit website and the portal for submitting a claim with the WSIB for reimbursement of a paid IDEL is now open.

If an employer is registered with WSIB, they need their Premium Remittance Statement (Schedule 1 employer), WSIB account number/firm number which is found on the Monthly Remittance Statement (Schedule 2 employer), and last payment details.

Employers are required to submit a copy of a paystub detailing the employee’s wage information. As well, where an employer provides paid sick leave coverage, they are required to submit a copy of their policy document (Employer would also have to detail the number of days in coverage and daily dollar amounts available to the employee in question under that company policy).

When submitting an application, employers are required to confirm that they have informed the employee in question;

- that personal information about the employee (contact information, address, SIN, Date of Birth, proof of wage payment etc.) will be submitted to the WSIB and the MLTSD in support of an application for the COVID-19 Worker Income Protection Benefit; and
- that the employer has submitted an application for the COVID-19 Worker Income Protection Benefit.

The application form can be found here: <https://ontario-covid19-worker-income-protection-benefit.ca/en>

Source: ontario.ca

Check out our [new blog](#) on how to improve Human Resources Management in your organization!

Ontario Accelerating Second Doses of COVID-19 Vaccines

- **Ontario is now accelerating second doses for all Ontarians.** Your appointment for your accelerated second dose must be at least **12 weeks** after your first dose of AstraZeneca, or **28 days** after your first dose of Moderna or Pfizer. Refer to the [Government of Ontario’s website](#) for more information.
- **Individuals in hot spots** within Halton, Peel, Porcupine, Toronto, Waterloo, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph and York public health units will be eligible to book their second Pfizer or Moderna doses through the provincial booking system as of 8:00 a.m. on June 14th. **The province will not be restricting vaccine doses by postal codes in these hot spots and eligibility applies to the whole region.**

Source: www.ontario.ca, www.toronto.ctvnews.ca

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[COVID-19 Posters and Resources](#)
[Canada Recovery Benefit](#)
[Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit](#)
[Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit](#)
[Deemed Infectious Disease Emergency Leave Extended](#)
[COVID-19 Screening Tool for Workplaces](#)
[Ontario Small Business Support Grant](#)