

# CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS FOR SASKATCHEWAN'S TOURISM INDUSTRY

April 2021 • Information is subject to change



## FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

### Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)

- Interest-free loans of up to \$60,000 available
- A portion of the loan (up to \$20,000) is forgivable if balance paid by December 31, 2022
- Application deadline: June 30, 2021

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

### Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS)

- Partially covers commercial rent or property expenses
- Extended to June 15, 2021
- Lockdown support available to business locations seriously affected by a public health order for one or more weeks

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

### Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)

- Partial payment of employee wages, enabling businesses to keep or rehire staff
- Extended to June 15, 2021

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

### Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP)

- Loans to assist businesses with operating costs

**More info:** <https://www.bdc.ca/en/special-support?special-initiative=covid19>

### Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)

- Provides income support – \$1,000 for a two-week period to employed or self-employed people directly affected by COVID-19 and unable to access Employment Insurance
- Eligible recipients can apply for a total of 19 periods (38 weeks)

**More info:** [Canada Recovery Benefit \(CRB\) - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/recovery-sickness-benefit.html)

### Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF)

- Provides assistance to businesses unable to access other federal support programs
- Interest-free loans of up to \$60,000 available to rural businesses, small- and medium-sized businesses, women-owned or led businesses
- Application deadline: June 30, 2021

**More info:** Western Economic Diversification Canada  
<https://www.wd-deo.gc.ca/eng/20060.asp>

### Canada Summer Jobs Program

- Provides wage subsidies to employers in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors to create summer work experiences for young people between the ages of 15 and 30
- Applications closed

**More info:** <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs.html>

### Support for Indigenous Businesses

- Interest-free loans of up to \$30,000 available to small- and medium-sized Indigenous businesses
- Up to \$10,000 is non-repayable

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

### Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB)

- Provides income support – \$500 weekly, for up to two weeks – to employed or self-employed individuals unable to work because of illness or self-isolation due to COVID-19

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

### Work-Sharing Program – COVID-19

- Helps employers and staff avoid layoffs during temporary disruption in business activity
- Provides EI benefits to eligible employees who agree to reduce hours and share available work

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

### Highly Affected Sectors Credit Availability Program (HASCAP)

- Provides financial support to businesses that have been hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Government-guaranteed, low-interest loans of up to \$1 million available. Businesses with multiple locations, such as hotels or restaurants, could be eligible for up to \$6.25 million.
- Eligible businesses can apply to principal financial institutions. The HASCAP Guarantee is available until June 30, 2021.

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

### Emergency Support Fund for Cultural, Heritage and Sport Organizations

- Proposed funding, through Department of Canadian Heritage and Canada Council for the Arts, to support planning and presentation of COVID-19-safe events – live and digital – and provide employment opportunities
- Applications accepted on a continuous intake in 2021-2022

**More info:** [COVID-19: Support for culture, heritage and sport sectors - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/news/2020/11/covid-19-support-for-culture-heritage-and-sport-sectors.html)

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## PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

### Saskatchewan Small Business Emergency Payment Program (SSBEP)

- Assists small businesses ordered to temporarily close or curtail operations due to COVID-19
- Funding of up to \$5,000 available
- Expanded to include business activities during January -March 2021
- Application deadline: April 30, 2021

**More info:** [https://www.saskatchewan.ca/small-business-emergency-payment#utm\\_campaign=q2\\_2015&utm\\_medium=short&utm\\_source=%2Fsmall-business-emergency-payment](https://www.saskatchewan.ca/small-business-emergency-payment#utm_campaign=q2_2015&utm_medium=short&utm_source=%2Fsmall-business-emergency-payment)

### Strong Recovery Adaptation Rebate (SRAR)

- Reimburses one-time, incremental investments made to adapt business models during the COVID-19 pandemic
- For Saskatchewan small businesses (fewer than 100 full- or part-time employees)
- Application deadline: March 31, 2021 (currently closed)

### Re-Open Saskatchewan Training Subsidy (RSTS)

- Reimburses eligible private-sector employers for employee training to mitigate the costs required for safe re-opening
- Extended to June 30, 2021

**More info:** [https://www.saskatchewan.ca/training-subsidy#utm\\_campaign=q2\\_2015&utm\\_medium=short&utm\\_source=%2Ftraining-subsidy](https://www.saskatchewan.ca/training-subsidy#utm_campaign=q2_2015&utm_medium=short&utm_source=%2Ftraining-subsidy)

### Business Response Team

- Works directly with businesses to identify and apply for federal and provincial support programs
- Contact info: 1-844-800-8688, [supportforbusiness@gov.sk.ca](mailto:supportforbusiness@gov.sk.ca)

### Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan

- Five-phase plan for safely and responsibly lifting restrictions on businesses and services
  - Outlines comprehensive guidelines for specific industries
- More info:** <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/re-open-saskatchewan-plan>

### Saskatchewan Tourism Sector Support Program (STSSP)

- Provides one-time, non-repayable emergency payment to eligible tourism operators in the hospitality and event/attraction industries.
- Funding of up to \$50,000 available to accommodation sector and large event facilities – <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-for-businesses-and-workers/saskatchewan-tourism-sector-support-program/accommodations-and-major-event-facilities-funding>
- Funding of \$7,500-\$15,000 to attraction, tour or event operators – <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-for-businesses-and-workers/saskatchewan-tourism-sector-support-program/event-attractions-or-tour-sector-business-funding>
- Application deadline: April 30, 2021
- **More info:** <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-for-businesses-and-workers/saskatchewan-tourism-sector-support-program>

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## TOURISM SASKATCHEWAN PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

### COVID-19 News and Resources

- Dedicated page on [Industry.TourismSaskatchewan.com](https://industry.tourismsaskatchewan.com)
- Comprehensive list of business support links, marketing information, recovery tools and advice to help businesses stay open

**More info:** <https://industry.tourismsaskatchewan.com/coronavirus-information>

### Industry Update

- Saskatchewan tourism industry e-newsletter
- Provides timely details on government funding programs, health and safety announcements, research, workshops and resources to speed tourism recovery and build a resilient industry
- Email [information.updates@tourismsask.com](mailto:information.updates@tourismsask.com) to subscribe

### Tourism Saskatchewan Content Playbook

- Concise guide to communicating with audiences on social media
- Provides advice on messaging and best practices throughout the stages of mitigating challenges, recovery efforts and building post-pandemic resilience

**More info:** <https://industry.tourismsaskatchewan.com/en/advice-and-resources/digital-marketing>

### Clean It Right

- Online training tool that helps businesses implement policies and procedures for cleaning and disinfecting facilities
- Free to all Saskatchewan businesses

**More info:** <https://industry.tourismsaskatchewan.com/education-and-training/clean-it-right>

### Marketing and Event Partnership Program

- Application-based program that supports promotion of tourism products, services, attractions and events, and the creation of quality content marketing assets
- Spring intake: Closed.

**More info:** <https://industry.tourismsaskatchewan.com/apply-for-funding/marketing-and-event-partnership-program>

### Workshops, Webinars and Training Opportunities

- Comprehensive list of upcoming events and replays that offer advice and tools for tourism businesses

**More info:** <https://industry.tourismsaskatchewan.com/coronavirus-information>

### Saskatchewan Tourism Education Council (STEC) programs

- Online training and resources for businesses in areas such as human resources, employee training and certification and professional development

**More info:** <https://industry.tourismsaskatchewan.com/education-and-training/stec-courses-and-workshops>

### Pathway to Recovery video series

- 14 comprehensive training programs to keep workplaces operational and adjust to COVID-19 pandemic safety protocols
- Employers may be eligible for reimbursement of all training costs through the Re-Open Saskatchewan Training Subsidy
- Application deadline: June 30, 2021

**More info:** <https://industry.tourismsaskatchewan.com/education-and-training/pathway-to-recovery-training-series>

### Community Experience Cluster Program

- Supports the development of clusters of compelling tourism experiences
- Maximum funding per application is \$20,000
- Partnerships are required (e.g. community organizations, municipalities, rural destination marketing organizations, Indigenous communities, tourism businesses)
- 2021 intake date TBD

**More info:** <https://industry.tourismsaskatchewan.com/apply-for-funding/experience-program>

### Diversification and New Market Program

- Three funding streams available – 1) New Market(s); 2) Seasonal Usage Expansion; 3) New Experiential Product Development
- Maximum funding per application – \$20,000 & \$30,000
- Minimum equity investment by the applicant – 30 per cent of total project budget
- Spring 2021 intake date: April 26-May 31

**More info:** <https://industry.tourismsaskatchewan.com/apply-for-funding/diversification-program>