



Employment Insurance Sickness Benefits

The Employment Insurance Sickness Benefit is a financial program for people unable to work because of illness or injury. The benefits can be paid for up to 15 weeks. For more about this program and current rates, visit Service Canada online.

Contact: 1-800-206-7218 | www.ServiceCanada.gc.ca/ei

How to Qualify

- Regular earnings have decreased by more than 40% due to illness or injury.
- Have worked 600 insured hours in the last 52 weeks.

How to Apply

Applications are done online or in person at a Service Canada office. You should apply as soon as you stop working. Apply even if you will be receiving other funding sources.

Medical Certificate: A certificate must be completed by your Doctor. It confirms the length of time you are unable to work. Keep a copy of it.

Processing Time: It takes 28 days for the application to be processed.

Benefit Amount: The basic benefit rate is 55% of your average insured earning up to yearly maximum insurable of \$50, 800 (2016 rates). You can receive a maximum payment of \$537 per week (2016 rates). Visit their website for current rates.

Receiving the Benefit

To continue receiving the benefit, you need to continue being unable to work. You will need to complete reports with Service Canada every two weeks with an update. This can be done by phone or online. If you do not check in you will stop receiving benefits.

Always remember to keep a copy of completed application packages for future reference.

Contact your Social Worker for more information.

FINANCE

Originally written by: Sue Farnale. ©2016 University Health Network - Toronto Rehab. All rights reserved. **Disclaimer:** Information is provided for educational purposes only. Consult a qualified health professional regarding specific medical concerns or treatment. University Health Network does not assume and disclaims any liability to any party for any loss or damage caused by errors or omissions in this publication.

www.SpinalCordEssentials.ca

SCE2-Cb4-2016-11-25