

# National Insurance and Coronavirus/COVID-19



How National Insurance provides for workers when income is suspended due to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic

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**Sickness Benefit** is payable if you **contract** COVID-19/Coronavirus

To qualify for the benefit, you must have been employed on the day of or the day before the illness began, and you must be able to satisfy the contribution conditions – i.e.,

1. You must have paid at least 40 contributions overall; and
2. You must have paid and/or been credited with:
  - 13 contributions in the 26 weeks immediately before the week in which the period of quarantine was imposed; or
  - 26 contributions in the 52 weeks before the week in which the period of quarantine was imposed; or
  - 26 contributions in the contribution year immediately preceding the first day of your quarantine.

*Note that you must follow the same process as you ordinarily would for claiming Sickness Benefit, specifically, your illness must be confirmed by a medical practitioner, and your employer must confirm that you are off from work.*

**Sickness Benefit** is payable if you are **Quarantined** because of exposure or suspected exposure to COVID-19/ Coronavirus

To qualify, you must have been employed on the day of or the day before the day that the quarantine was first imposed, and you must be able to satisfy the contribution conditions – i.e.,

1. You must have paid at least 40 contributions overall; and
2. You must have paid and/or been credited with:
  - 13 contributions in the 26 weeks immediately before the week in which the period of quarantine was imposed; or
  - 26 contributions in the 52 weeks before the week in which the period of quarantine was imposed; or
  - 26 contributions in the contribution year immediately preceding the first day of your quarantine.

*Note that you must follow the same process as you ordinarily would for claiming Sickness Benefit, specifically, your period of Quarantine must be confirmed by a medical practitioner, and your employer must confirm that you are off from work.*

**Unemployment Benefit** is payable if you are **temporarily laid off** because of the economic impacts of Covid-19/Coronavirus

To qualify for the benefit, you must:

1. Satisfy the Department of Labour's conditions for registration;
2. Be younger than 65 years of age; and
3. Have paid at least 52 contributions overall and
4. You must have paid and/or been credited with at least:
  - 13 contributions in the 26 weeks immediately before the week unemployment began; and
  - 7 contributions in the 13 weeks immediately before the week unemployment began.