

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

June 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 (closed)

More info: https://www.saskatchewan.ca/small-business-emergency-payment#utm_campaign=q2_2015&utm_medium=short&utm_source=%2Fsmall-business-emergency-payment

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

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

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
- Funding of \$7,500-\$15,000 to attraction, tour or event operators
- Application deadline: April 30, 2021 (closed)
- **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>

TOURISM SASKATCHEWAN PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

COVID-19 News and Resources

- Dedicated page on Business.TourismSaskatchewan.com
- Comprehensive list of business support links, marketing information, recovery tools and advice to help businesses stay open

More info: <https://business.tourismsaskatchewan.com/en/covid-resources>

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 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://business.tourismsaskatchewan.com/en/marketing-your-business/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://business.tourismsaskatchewan.com/courses-and-workshops/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://business.tourismsaskatchewan.com/funding/market-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://business.tourismsaskatchewan.com/en/covid-resources>

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://business.tourismsaskatchewan.com/about-stec>

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://business.tourismsaskatchewan.com/courses-and-workshops/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://business.tourismsaskatchewan.com/funding/destination-experience-development-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 and \$30,000
- Minimum equity investment by the applicant – 30 per cent of total project budget
- Spring 2021 intake date: April 26-May 31 (closed)

More info: <https://business.tourismsaskatchewan.com/funding/diversification-and-new-market-program>