

Income Support Employment Stability Pilot

Job Start Benefit

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| Intent: | To assist with the transition from Income Support to employment by providing an enhanced Job Start Benefit, which allows higher amounts on a more frequent basis. |
| Act: (if applicable) | 9.(2) In providing programs under subsection (1), the minister may provide for pilot projects, demonstration projects and innovations in income and employment support programs and services in all or part of the province. |
| Regulations: | N/A |
| Overview: (if applicable) | <p>The goal of the Income Support Employment Stability Pilot is to assist recipients to improve self-reliance through new and enhanced initiatives that support and encourage increased labour market attachment.</p> <p>The first month of employment can be challenging for individuals receiving Income Support with respect to additional costs associated with beginning work.</p> <p>Recipients can receive a job start benefit of \$250, up to two times in a 12 month period to provide a more adequate amount towards miscellaneous costs associated with starting work.</p> |
| Policy: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verification of paid employment, including the start date, is required (i.e. job offer, employment letter or paystub). • The benefit can be paid up to two weeks prior to the start of employment to provide an opportunity to prepare for the transition to work. • The job start benefit can be issued twice in a 12 month period, if the recipient starts a second job or changes jobs during this period. • Recipients who were working prior to December 1, 2023, will be eligible for a job start benefit for any new jobs started after that date. • This benefit is payable twice in a 12 month period to each adult recipient. Therefore, should two adults in the household obtain employment, they can both be issued the job start benefit. |

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| Procedure: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• When a recipient provides written confirmation/pay stubs of the start date of paid employment (full or part time), CSOs can issue the first job start of \$250 under CAPS requirement “Employment Stability Pilot-Job Start Allowance 1”.• If a recipient provides confirmation of a change in jobs or a second job within 12 months of receiving their first job start benefit, CSOs can issue a second job start benefit of \$250 under CAPS requirement “Employment Stability Pilot-Job Start Allowance 2”. |
| Authority Level: | Client Services Officer |
| Date revised: | November 2, 2023 |