
Other Benefits and Waiting Period

General Principle

Applicants for social assistance must make application for any other benefit, settlement, or payment to which they may be entitled. Refusal to do so renders them ineligible for social assistance.

Time-limited hardship assistance may be issued pending the outcome of application for other benefits (see Chapter 7, Hardship Assistance).

Refusal to file an income tax return to receive the BC Basic Family Bonus (BCFB) and National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS) Child Benefits Cheque does not render an applicant ineligible for social assistance. However, there is no family bonus top-up allowance if the family refuses to establish entitlement to the BCFB and NCBS by filing a tax return, or submitting any required notification to Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA). See Chapter 11.2, Family Bonus Top Up Allowance.

Waiting Period

Application for assistance is often made by a person immediately following loss of employment.

The administering authority must consider resources, such as final pay cheque, vacation pay, severance pay, or returned pension contributions, that are available to support the applicant during the immediate period.

An applicant does not establish need until the end of a time period, following loss of employment, equivalent to a pay period when last employed, adjusted to take account of severance and vacation pay, and returned pension funds.