

COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Program at a Glance

APPLIES TO

- Employees
- Self-employed workers

WHO SUBMITS THE APPLICATION

- Employers (for wage reimbursement)
- Self-employed workers

QUALIFYING FOR THE BENEFIT

Workers who miss less than 50% of scheduled work time in a one-week period because they are

- waiting to get PCR tested for COVID-19
- getting PCR tested for COVID-19
- self-isolating while waiting for test results
- going to get vaccinated

ELIGIBILITY

Employers

- are a for-profit business or not-for-profit organization
- have a permanent physical location in Nova Scotia

- are registered to do business in Nova Scotia
- are in good standing with the Government of NS (not in default of any financial obligations like loan repayments, taxes, fines, fees, administrative and court orders)
- are paying Nova Scotia-based employees who don't qualify for paid sick leave under their employment agreement and aren't receiving benefits from other COVID-19 programs

Self-employed workers

- are actively earning income from the business as their primary source of income
- are registered to do business in Nova Scotia, if applicable
- have declared business income on their most recent tax return
- have lost income because they missed time at work
- are in good standing with the Government of NS (not in default of any financial obligations like loan repayments, taxes, fines, fees, administrative and court orders)
- aren't eligible for or receiving other income support (like Business Interruption Insurance, Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit or any other income replacement or insurance programs)

LENGTH OF BENEFIT

- Maximum 4 days

MAXIMUM PAYMENT

- \$20/hour or \$160/day (\$640 max total per worker)

TIMING OF APPLICATION

- Online application opens May 26th
- Employers must apply within 90 days of the employee being paid
- Self-employed workers must apply within 90 days of the days missed

PROGRAM DURATION

- May 10, 2021 to July 31, 2021

VERIFICATION

- Declaration Form signed by employer and employee, or self-employed worker
- Doctor's note not required

INELIGIBILITY

- employees who have other sick leave benefits, even if they've used them up
- businesses, shareholders, officers, directors and partners of the business who aren't in good standing with their financial obligations to the Government of Nova Scotia
- self-employed individuals with commission-based earnings claiming for speculative income losses
- self-employed individuals who aren't actively earning income from their business
- businesses that aren't currently operating
- federal, provincial and municipal governments and crown corporations