

Personal coverage

Personal coverage, subject to approval, is optional workers' compensation coverage available to:

- proprietors,
- partners in a partnership,
- directors of a corporation or a society, or
- members of an association, board, authority, commission or foundation.

To register for personal coverage, you first have to have a WCB account. Signing up is easy. Go to www.wcb.ab.ca/application to get started.

Personal coverage is flexible, and once in place, it can be changed at any time. It automatically renews every year on Dec. 31.

Benefits of coverage

The benefits of personal coverage include:

- **Protection against loss of employment income.** If your injury or illness is work related and you are unable to work, you will receive compensation for lost earnings.
- **Comprehensive medical and rehabilitation services.** With no preset limits, these services help you recover and return to work.
- **Risk management.** Workers' compensation is the only insurance that offers protection from lawsuits for you and other covered parties.
- **A smoother bidding process.** Personal coverage is a requirement of some contracts.

Coverage amount

It is important to base the coverage you buy on your actual employment earnings (before tax, CPP and EI deductions). This amount will be used to determine the compensation you receive in case of a work-related injury.

Purchasing the minimum amount of coverage may initially reduce your costs, but the benefits you receive, if injured, may not be enough to replace lost income.

If your income exceeds the maximum assessable earnings available (\$110,900 in 2026), you should also ensure that you carry additional private insurance to make up the difference not covered by WCB.

If injured, you may need to verify your self-employment earnings through records such as T4 and T5 slips, tax returns (T1 General), income and expense statements or payroll stubs.

If your records do not match the amount of coverage purchased, compensation benefits will be based on the lesser amount of:

- coverage purchased,
- guaranteed coverage amount (if applicable) or
- verified earnings to the minimum amount (\$34,200 in 2026).

Please see the illustration on page three for more information.

If you're a new business owner, in order to substantiate your personal employment income, we will request a copy of the previous year's tax information.

If you don't have a history of self-employed income, you may wish to purchase minimum coverage or [guaranteed coverage](#) until your business is established and you're able to provide proof of personal employment income.

Please note dividends may be considered earnings for directors when they are paid in lieu of salary. Shareholder loans are not covered as employment income and corporate tax returns aren't acceptable as proof of earnings.

Guaranteed Coverage Amounts are offered in some industries without earnings validation. Please contact WCB to discuss the details. See our [Guaranteed Coverage fact sheet](#) for more information.

Cost of personal coverage

Cost will vary based on the amount of coverage you purchase and the industry you operate in. The minimum annual premium on a WCB account is \$200.

Compensation amounts

Compensation benefits depend on the level of coverage purchased. You may choose an amount between the minimum and maximum.

The following chart shows the approximate weekly benefits for selected levels of coverage.

| 2026 personal coverage levels | Approximate weekly compensation rate |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| \$34,200 (minimum 2026) | \$500.97 |
| \$35,000 | \$510.31 |
| \$40,000 | \$572.11 |
| \$45,000 | \$633.92 |
| \$50,000 | \$695.73 |
| \$55,000 | \$757.54 |
| \$60,000 | \$817.21 |
| \$65,000 | \$872.38 |
| \$70,000 | \$928.29 |
| \$75,000 | \$985.48 |
| \$82,800 | \$1,076.07 |
| \$86,700 | \$1,122.86 |
| \$92,300 | \$1,190.03 |
| \$95,300 | \$1,226.02 |
| \$110,900 (maximum 2026) | \$1,413.16 |

For 2026, \$34,200 is the minimum amount of coverage (those earning less than this should choose this amount). \$110,900 is the maximum amount of wage loss coverage available (if your income exceeds this amount, you should buy additional private insurance coverage).

Owner-operators of mobile industrial equipment

If you own and operate mobile industrial equipment, you may wish to buy coverage for an amount above what you would draw as personal income from your business.

As there are several ways to draw income from a business, such as T4'd wages, dividend payment or shareholder loans, WCB will consider different approaches to setting your compensation rate.

WCB considers the gross income earned from operating the piece of equipment when setting a compensation rate. The compensation rate can be set based on 25% of this income (or 50% for portable welders), if this amount is greater than the owner-operator's personal, taxable income.

Example: The owner-operator of a tractor/trailer unit has a yearly gross business income of \$200,000. He draws a wage of \$40,000 per year in personal, taxable income. This owner-operator could purchase personal coverage up to \$50,000 (25% of \$200,000) to protect himself against the potential loss of employment income.

For additional information about the benefits of personal coverage, please visit our [website](#).

T1 General: Income Tax and Benefit Return (updated 2021)

Attach only the documents (schedules, information slips, forms, or receipts) requested to support any claim or deduction. Keep all other supporting documents.

Step 2 – Total income

As a resident of Canada, you have to report your income from all sources both inside and outside Canada. The Income Tax and Benefit Guide may have additional information for certain lines.

| | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------|----------------------|---|
| Employment income (box 14 of all T4 slips) | | | 10100 | |
| Tax-exempt income for emergency services volunteers (See line 10100 in the guide.) | 10105 | | | |
| Commissions included on line 10100 (box 42 of all T4 slips) | 10120 | | | |
| Wage-loss replacement contributions (See line 10100 in the guide.) | 10130 | | | |
| Other employment income | | 10400 | + | |
| Old age security pension (box 18 of the T4A(OAS) slip) | | 11300 | + | |
| CPP or QPP benefits (box 20 of the T4A(P) slip) | | 11400 | + | |
| Disability benefits included on line 11400 (box 16 of the T4A(P) slip) | 11410 | | | |
| Other pensions and superannuation (See line 11500 in the guide and complete line 31400 in the Worksheet for the return.) | | 11500 | + | |
| Elected split-pension amount (Get and complete Form T1032.) | | 11600 | + | |
| Universal child care benefit (UCCB) (See the RC62 slip.) | | 11700 | + | |
| UCCB amount designated to a dependant | 11701 | | | |
| Employment insurance and other benefits (box 14 of the T4E slip) | | 11900 | + | |
| Employment insurance maternity and parental benefits and provincial parental insurance plan benefits | 11905 | | | |
| Taxable amount of dividends (eligible and other than eligible) from taxable Canadian corporations (Complete the Worksheet for the return.) | | 12000 | + | |
| Taxable amount of dividends other than eligible dividends, included on line 12000, from taxable Canadian corporations | 12010 | | | |
| Interest and other investment income (Complete the Worksheet for the return.) | | 12100 | + | |
| Net partnership income: limited or non-active partners only | | 12200 | + | |
| Registered disability savings plan income (box 131 of the T4A slip) | | 12500 | + | |
| Rental income | Gross 12599 | | Net 12600 | + |
| Taxable capital gains (Complete Schedule 3.) | | | 12700 | + |
| Support payments received | Total 12799 | | Taxable amount 12800 | + |
| RRSP income (from all T4RSP slips) | | | 12900 | + |
| Other income | Specify: | | 13000 | + |
| Taxable scholarship, fellowships, bursaries, and artists' project grants | | | 13010 | + |
| Self-employment income | | | | |
| Business income | Gross 13499 | | Net 13500 | + |
| Professional income | Gross 13699 | | Net 13700 | + |
| Commission income | Gross 13899 | | Net 13900 | + |
| Farming income | Gross 14099 | | Net 14100 | + |
| Fishing income | Gross 14299 | | Net 14300 | + |
| Workers' compensation benefits (box 10 of the T5007 slip) | 14400 | | | |
| Social assistance payments | 14500 | + | | |
| Net federal supplements (box 21 of the T4A(OAS) slip) | 14600 | + | | |
| Add lines 14400, 14500, and 14600. (See line 25000 in Step 4.) | | | 14700 | + |
| Add lines 10100, 10400 to 11400, 11500 to 11700, 11900, 12000, 12100 to 12500, 12600, 12700, 12800, 12900 to 13010, 13500, 13700, 13900, 14100, 14300, and 14700. | | | | |
| This is your total income. | | | 15000 | = |

If the PC holder draws a T4 salary from their company, it is reported on line 10100 of the T1 General. The PC holder must submit a copy of their T4 from their company to verify these employment earnings.

Dividends, shareholder loans and other sources of investment income are not considered employment income.

If the PC holder does not draw a T4 salary, we use their Business Income (after expenses) which is line 13500.