

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Employment Insurance (EI) Benefits

It usually takes the Employment Office a few weeks to send you your cheques. The first few EI cheques that you get cover part of the period of time while you were waiting for your EI claim to be processed.

The Employment and Ontario Works Offices may pay you for this same time period. The law in Ontario states you must pay back any social assistance (Ontario Works) that covers the same period as your EI benefits.

Always notify your Case Manager immediately, if you are no longer employed, as you may be eligible for EI benefits.

Social Assistance (Ontario Works)

Ontario Works is only able to issue you full assistance until your claim is finalized. This means that there will always be a short period of time, while EI is processing your cards, when Ontario Works may not be able to assist you.

Assignment of Benefits (AOB)

The Employment Office will pay the Ontario Works Office back directly from your EI cheques. This is why you must sign an Assignment of benefits (AOB) form if you wish to get Ontario Works Assistance

How Will Repayment Be Made?

The Employment Office will subtract from your first few EI cheques either the amount of Ontario Works Assistance or EI issued to you for the same time period; whichever is less.

The Employment Office will not subtract any Ontario Works from your EI cheque for the last week of Ontario Works issued to you. You still owe the Ontario Works for this week; therefore, your EI cheques you will get after that week will have money taken off to finish paying the Ontario Works Office back.

What If There Is No Ontario Works Taken Off My EI Cheques?

Sometimes the Employment Office cannot pay Social Assistance from your EI cheques. If this happens, you will be asked to pay us back on your own. That is why you must also sign an Agreement to Reimburse form.

What If My EI Does Not start On Time?

If you do not have your EI by _____, please call the Employment Office at _____. Notify your Case Manager of any delays with your EI claim. You may still be eligible for Ontario Works.