

COVID-19 AND YOUR EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

BY: TEAMSTERS CANADA - MARCH 16, 2020



If a person tests positive for COVID-19 and is under quarantine, but does not develop the illness, or if a person goes into self-isolation, they can apply for Employment Insurance sickness benefits at https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-sickness/apply.html by providing a record of employment (ROE) from their employer with the code "D – Illness". Workers don't have to wait to receive their ROE statement to apply for sickness benefits.

Two days after submitting their claim for EI sickness benefits, workers should call: **1-833-381-2725** (toll free) to waive the one-week waiting period for EI sickness benefits.

Don't go to a Service Canada office. Instead, use online or telephone services at 1 800 O-Canada.

If an employer closes the business and you are laid off indefinitely, you can apply for regular El benefits at https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/privacy-notice.html by providing a record of employment (ROE) from your employer with the code "A – Lack of work".

If someone refuses to work because of the risk of contracting the virus, they can apply for regular El benefits, but the employer will produce an ROE marked with "E = Voluntary termination" or "N = Leave".

There is no guarantee these claims will be accepted as each application is evaluated on a case-by-case basis.



In a nutshell:

If a person is under quarantine but does not have the disease: the reason on their record of employment must be "D – Illness".

If a person goes into voluntary isolation: the reason on their record of employment must be "D – Illness". Claims will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.



If an employer closes his business, the reason on the worker's record of employment must be "A – Lack of work".

If a worker refuses to work because of the risk, the reason on their record of employment must be "E – Voluntary termination" or "N = Leave. Claims will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Fraternally yours, Stan Hennessy, President

Source: Federal government of Canada

If you have any questions please contact your Teamsters Local Union No. 31 Business Representative at 604-527-2705.

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