

Alberta Child and Family Benefit (ACFB)

About the Alberta Child and Family Benefit

Beginning in July 2020, the Alberta Child Benefit (ACB) and the Alberta Family Employment Tax Credit (AFETC) are being consolidated into a single program, the new Alberta Child and Family Benefit (ACFB). This program provides direct financial assistance to lower and middle-income families with children under 18, helping them make ends meet and supporting a better quality of life.

The ACFB helps families provide a better quality of life for their children, support their well-being, and give children opportunities to reach their potential. This program helps make lives better for Albertans by addressing child poverty. Alberta families most in need will receive up to 15 per cent more in benefits under the ACFB than they did under the previous programs.

Joining two previous programs

The Alberta government is restructuring child tax benefits to focus on families who need support the most, while streamlining administration. By combining the two existing child and family benefits, the new ACFB will provide up to 15 per cent more in benefits to lower-income families while maintaining incentives for families to join and remain in the workforce.

The new program will deliver an estimated \$230 million in benefits to over 190,000 families in 2020-21.

Eligibility for the ACFB

To be eligible to receive the ACFB, you must be a parent of one or more children under the age of 18, be a resident of Alberta, have filed a tax return and meet the income criteria.



Amount provided through the program

In total, it is estimated that the ACFB will deliver \$230 million in benefits in 2020-21, to about 190,000 families. The final payment of the ACB in the first part of 2020-21 will deliver an additional \$45.5 million.

How to apply for the ACFB

You must file a tax return to be eligible. You will automatically be considered for the ACFB if you are enrolled for the federal government's Canada Child Benefit.

Help with your tax return

Community organizations host free tax clinics to prepare returns for eligible lower-income taxpayers.

Visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/free-tax-help.html>

How much assistance you will receive

The amount your family receives under the ACFB will depend on your family's income level and how many children you have under the age of 18.

The ACFB includes a base component and a working component. The ACFB's **base component** is available to lower-income families with children, whether or not they earn any employment income.

Families are also eligible for the **working component** if their family employment income exceeds \$2,760, with the amount received growing at a rate of 15 per cent for every additional dollar of income earned over this threshold, until the maximum benefit is reached. As families work more they receive more benefits, encouraging them to join or remain in the workforce.

The table below displays the maximum benefit amounts by component for a family receiving the ACFB. Benefit amounts for the base component and working component are reduced once a family's net income exceeds \$24,467 and \$41,000, respectively.

Number of children	Base component (max.)/year	Working component (max.)/year
1 child	\$1,330	\$681
2 children	\$1,995	\$1,301
3 children	\$2,660	\$1,672
4 children or more	\$3,325	\$1,795

Example of how the benefit will work

A single parent making \$30,000 per year with two children enrolled in licensed child care would be eligible for a quarterly payment of \$657 under the ACFB. This parent would also be eligible for over \$1,000 per month in provincial child care subsidy as well as support through other government programs including Canada Child Benefit, Canada Workers Benefit, GST credit and tax refund.

For more information:

www.alberta.ca/alberta-child-and-family-benefit.aspx

Alberta Supports

When and how you will receive the benefit

Families will receive the ACFB in four payments: August, November, February and May. ACFB payments will be mailed or direct deposited by the CRA.

The benefit is not taxable

The ACFB is a non-taxable benefit and is refundable, meaning a household can receive the benefit even if they do not owe provincial income taxes.

Impact on AISH, Income Support or Child Care Subsidy

The ACFB does not affect eligibility or benefit amounts for AISH, Income Support, Child Care Subsidy or other federal and provincial tax and social programs.