

CIRCULAR

Date: November 27, 2020

CIRCULAR NUMBER: 2020-199 - COVID-19

To: Community Living disABILITY Services shift-staffed residential service providers (including Manitoba Developmental Centre) and Child and Family Services group care/community care providers

Subject: Caregiver Wage Support Program

Type: Policy

Procedure

Effective Date: Applications available December 7, 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has created unique challenges for front-line workers providing care to vulnerable Manitobans.

In response to these challenges, the Manitoba government is introducing a new \$35 million Caregiver Wage Support Program for the adult disability, emergency shelter and child welfare sectors.

The Program will provide \$5 per hour of wage support for all frontline, direct support workers making less than \$25 per hour over the next two months in the following areas:

- Child and Family Services group homes
- Community Living disABILITY Services shift-staffed group homes or 24/7 cluster living arrangement (including Manitoba Developmental Centre)
- Emergency placement shelters in CFS
- Family violence prevention shelters
- Homeless shelters
- Personal care homes
- Retirement residences
- Supportive housing residences

Eligible full-time, part-time and casual workers in these sectors will receive a top-up to their wage of \$5 per hour, based on the number of hours worked between Nov. 1, 2020 and Jan. 10, 2021.

There are two intake periods which close on Dec. 14, 2020 and Jan. 18, 2021. The program benefit will be paid directly to workers by the province in the week after each intake period closes.

Additional information about the Caregiver Wage Support Program, including information on how workers can register, is online at <https://manitoba.ca/covid19/programs/caregiver-wage-support.html>. The application form for the first intake will be available on this page on December 7, 2020.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Gerrard, Deputy Minister
Manitoba Families