

Supplementary payments are available under provincial social-assistance legislation for those recipients of old-age security who are in need. The amount is determined largely through an individual assessment of need that takes into consideration the recipient's requirements and resources.

Old-Age Assistance: Assistance of up to \$75 a month is paid to needy persons aged 65 to 69 years who have been resident in Canada for at least ten years. The cost of the payments is shared equally by the federal and provincial governments and the programme is administered by the latter. Total annual income, including the assistance, may not exceed \$1,260 for a single person, \$2,220 for a married couple, and \$2,580 for a married couple of whom one is blind.

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Blindness Allowances: Allowances of up to \$75 a month are paid to needy persons who are blind, aged 18 or over, and have been resident in Canada for at least ten years. The cost of the payments is shared by the federal and provincial governments on a 75-25 basis and the programme is administered by the latter. Total annual income, including the allowance, may not exceed \$1,500 for a single blind person, \$1,980 for an unmarried blind person caring for a dependant child, \$2,580 for a married couple one of whom is blind, and \$2,700 for a married couple when both are blind.

Supplementary payments are available under provincial social-assistance legislation to those recipients of blindness allowances who are in need. The amount is determined largely through an individual assessment of need that takes into consideration the recipient's requirements and resources.

Disabled-Persons Allowances: Allowances of up to \$75 a month are paid to needy persons who are totally and permanently disabled, aged 18 or over, and resident in Canada for at least ten years. The cost of the payment is shared equally by the federal and provincial governments and the programme is administered by the latter. Total annual income including the allowance, may not exceed \$1,260 a year for a single person, \$2,220 for a married couple or \$2,580 where the spouse is blind.

Supplementary payments are available under provincial social-assistance legislation for those recipients of disability allowances who are in need. The amount is determined largely through an individual assessment of need that takes into consideration the recipient's requirements and resources.

Unemployment Insurance: The Unemployment Insurance Act provides for a co-ordinated programme of unemployment insurance and for a National Employment Service, through its offices across the country. In general, all employed persons, with certain excluded occupations such as agriculture (with minor exceptions), domestic services and school teaching, are insured irrespective of length of residence if their annual earnings do not exceed \$5,460.

Insured workers make contributions on a scale graded according to wages and ranging from 10 cents to 94 cents a week. Employers contribute a sum equal to that paid by the employee and the Federal Government an amount equal to a fifth of the combined employer and employee contributions. Rates of benefits are related to the insured person's earnings and range from \$6 to \$27 a week for a person without dependants, or, for a person with one or more dependants, from \$8 to \$36 a week. To qualify for benefit, a person must have made at least 30 weekly contributions in insurable employment during the 104 weeks immediately preceding the claim; eight of the 30 weekly contributions must have been made in the immediately preceding 52 weeks. The duration of benefit varies from a minimum of 15 weeks to maximum of 52 weeks. Claimants must be unemployed, capable of working and available for work. An unemployed person who has