

*** ONTARIO INCOME SECURITY
& TAX BENEFIT PROGRAMS ***

Ontario Guaranteed Annual Income System

- ❖ The Guaranteed Annual Income System (GAINS) ensures a guaranteed minimum income for Ontario senior citizens by providing monthly payments to qualifying pensioners.

GAINS Payment

	<u>Single</u>	<u>Couple</u>
Monthly payment	\$83.00	\$166.00
Break-even point	\$166.00	\$332.00

GAINS Guarantee

	<u>Single</u>	<u>Couple</u>
Monthly payment	\$1,525.62	\$2,363.40
Total income at break-even point	\$1,525.62	\$2,363.40
Spouse's allowance		\$2,280.40

Ontario Child Benefit

- ❖ The Ontario Child Benefit (OCB) is a provincial program that helps low-income families provide for their children.

\$1,356/year per child reduced by 8% of family net income over \$20,706 effective July 2016.

Ontario Trillium Benefit

- ❖ The refundable Ontario Sales Tax Credit provides sales tax assistance for people with low to moderate incomes.
- ❖ The refundable Ontario Energy and Property Tax Credit provides sales tax on energy and property tax assistance for people with low to moderate incomes.

Ontario Sales Tax Credit (OSTC) - Effective July 2016

Basic Credit	\$291/adult and \$291/child
Family	Reduced by 4% of 2015 AFNI over \$27,985
Single	Reduced by 4% of 2015 AFNI over \$22,388

Ontario Energy and Property Tax Credit (OEPTC) - Effective July 2016

	<u>Non-Senior</u>	<u>Senior</u>
Energy Credit	Min. of \$224 and OC	Min. of \$224 and OC
Property Tax Credit	\$56+10% of OC(Max. \$784or OC)	\$476+10% of OC (Max. \$924 or OC)
Family	Reduced by 2% of 2015 AFNI over \$27,985	Reduced by 2% of 2015 AFNI over \$33,582
Single	Reduced by 2% of 2015 AFNI over \$22,388	Reduced by 2% of 2015 AFNI over \$27,985

Occupancy Cost (OC) = Property tax paid or 20% of rent paid.
AFNI – Adjusted Family Net Income

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For more information regarding Ontario income security and tax benefit programs, visit <http://www.fin.gov.on.ca>

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PURPOSES ONLY

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE, PENSION, and TAX CREDIT RATES

October – December 2016



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Social Assistance Analytics Unit
Policy Research and Analysis Branch
Social Policy Development Division
Ministry of Community & Social Services

*** FEDERAL INCOME SECURITY
& TAX BENEFIT PROGRAMS ***

OAS, GIS, SPA

- ❖ The Old Age Security (OAS) pension is a monthly benefit available, if applied for, to most Canadians 65 years of age or over. Old Age Security residence requirements must also be met.
- ❖ The Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) provides additional money, on top of the OAS pension, to low-income seniors.
- ❖ 60-to-64-year old spouses of OAS recipients (living or deceased) may receive a Spouse's Allowance (SPA).

OAS monthly benefit	\$578.53	
GIS	<u>Single</u>	<u>Couple</u>
		(benefit per person)
Maximum supplement	\$864.09	\$520.17
Break-even point	\$1,728.18	\$1,040.34

Federal OAS/GIS/SPA Guarantee

	<u>Single</u>	<u>Couple</u>
Monthly benefit	\$1,442.62	\$2,197.40
Total income at break-even point	\$2,286.15	\$3,208.86

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Widowed</u>
Spouse's allowance	\$1,098.70	\$1,309.67

Canada Pension Plan

- ❖ The Canada Pension Plan (CPP) pays a monthly retirement pension to people who have worked and contributed to the CPP. The CPP also acts as an insurance plan, providing disability, survivor and death benefits.

	<u>Maximum monthly benefit</u>
Retirement Pension (at age 65)	\$1,092.50
Disability Pension	\$1,290.81
Flat Rate	\$471.43
Earnings-related	\$819.38
Survivors Pension	
Under 65	\$593.62
Over 65	\$655.50
Children of deceased contributor	\$237.69
Death Benefit (lump sum)	\$2,500.00

Harmonized Sales Tax Credit

- ❖ The Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) Credit helps offset the HST paid by individuals and families with low to moderate incomes. The credit is paid every three months.

	<u>Credit Per Year</u>
Family	\$276/adult and \$145/child. Single parent: \$276/ for 1st child plus \$145 supplement
Single	\$276 and the lesser of \$145 and 2% of AFNI above \$8,948
	Reduced by 5% of AFNI > \$35,926

Working Income Tax Benefit

- ❖ The Working Income Tax Benefit (WITB) is a refundable tax credit for low-income individuals with earnings from employment or business. It consists of a basic amount and a disability supplement.
- ❖ The basic WITB provides an amount equal to 25% of each dollar earned over \$3,000 to a maximum credit.
- ❖ The disability supplement provides an amount in addition to the basic amount and is equal to 25% for each dollar earned over \$1,150 to a maximum.

	<u>Max Credit Per Year</u>
Single	\$1,028
Families	\$1,868
Disability Supplement (each eligible individual excluding dependants)	\$514

Note: Rates are for Tax Year 2016

Source: CRA
For more information regarding federal income security and tax benefit programs, visit <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca>

War Veterans Allowance

- ❖ The War Veterans Allowance (WVA) is a form of financial assistance granted in recognition of war service. Qualified persons receive a monthly benefit designed to help them meet basic needs.

	<u>Max monthly benefit</u>
Single/Survivor	\$1,559.45
Single/Survivor Blind	\$1,617.35
Couple	\$2,324.01
Couple (both blind)	\$2,381.70
Additional amount for each dependent child	\$247.33
Orphan	\$741.15

Employment Insurance

- ❖ Employment Insurance (EI) provides temporary financial help to unemployed Canadians while they look for work or upgrade their skills, while they are pregnant or caring for a newborn or adopted child, or while they are sick.
- Benefit**
55% of average insured earnings, with a maximum of \$537/week
- Premium**
1.88% of employment income, with a maximum premium of \$955.04/year

Medical Expense Tax Credit

Up to \$1,187 refundable. Phased out by 5% of family net income over \$26,277.

Canada Child Benefit

- ❖ The Canada Child Benefit (CCB) is a monthly, tax-free payment made to eligible families with children under 18. This benefit replaced the universal child care benefit (UCCB) and the Canada child tax benefit (CCTB) effective July 1, 2016.

Basic Child Benefit	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Per Year</u>
per month for each child under the age of 6	\$533	\$6,400
per month for each child age 6 to 17 years	\$450	\$5,400
Phase-out rates	<u>AFNI \$30,000- \$65,000</u>	<u>AFNI > \$65,000</u>
1 child	7.0%	3.2%
2 children	13.5%	5.7%
3 children	19.0%	8.0%
4 or more children	23.0%	9.5%

Child Disability Benefit

Per child \$2,730

Per child for families receiving the CCB whose disabled child qualifies for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC). Benefits are reduced by 3.2% of AFNI over \$65,000 for 1 child and by 5.7% of AFNI over \$65,000 for more than 1 DTC qualified child.

AFNI – Adjusted Family Net Income

