

Social Assistance

If you have authorized a Social Services agency to recover social assistance monies from your Employment Insurance (EI) benefits, the following information is of importance to you.

If you receive monies from a Social Services agency to assist you financially during a period while you are waiting for your EI benefits to start, that money will be deducted from the EI benefits paid to you for the same period.

How much money is paid back?

The amount of benefits that will be taken from each EI weekly payment will never be more than the amount of social assistance money paid to you for the same weekly period.

Example 1:

You receive \$150 in social assistance from a Social Services agency for a period of one week.

Later, for the same week, you receive \$150 in EI benefits.

EI will deduct \$150 from your EI payment covering that week and repay Social Services for you.

Example 2:

You receive \$250 in social assistance from a Social Services agency for a period of one week.

Later, for the same week, you receive \$200 from EI.

EI will deduct \$200 from your EI payment covering that week and repay Social Services for you. The remaining balance of \$50 dollars owing to the agency will be deducted from your next EI weekly payment.

The entire amount of your EI payment may be recovered, or the amount you owe may be recovered gradually to ensure you have enough money to live on each week. Your Social Services agency will decide how much money you need to meet your weekly living expenses.

Example 3:

You receive \$250 in social assistance from a Social Services agency for a period of one week. Later, for the same week, you receive \$300 from EI.

The agency determines that you require \$200 to meet your basic needs for one week.

EI will deduct \$100 from your EI payment covering that week and repay Social Services for you. The balance of \$150 owing to the agency will be deducted from your next EI weekly payment.

Any questions?

If you have any questions regarding the period your social assistance covers, the minimum living allowance and start date, please contact your Social Services agency. However, if you have questions concerning the money deducted from your EI payment call the Insurance Telemesssage at 1 800 206-7218 or visit your local Human Resources Center of Canada. A list of offices and other information regarding our programs and services can be found at www.hrsdc.gc.ca

