

Small Businesses

The City of Barrie is doing everything possible, in cooperation with the provincial and federal governments, to minimize impact and see economic recovery take place as soon as possible. This document outlines support resources available to small businesses.

Please visit barrie.ca/SupportForBusiness for information about resources available to various sectors, and for details about changes to City services that support business during this time.

Federal Support Programs

Access to Credit

Assisting Innovative and Early-stage Businesses

\$250 million is being invested to assist innovative, early-stage companies that are unable to access other COVID-19 business supports through the Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP). [Get the details.](#)

Small and Medium-sized Businesses Unable to Access Other Support Measures

The government is financing support to small and medium-sized businesses that are unable to access other COVID-19 business supports. [Get the details.](#)

Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF)

The government is providing nearly \$962 million to help more businesses and organizations in sectors such as manufacturing, technology, tourism that may require additional help to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, but have been unable to access existing support measures. [More detail.](#)

Access to Credit: Self-employed Individuals

Support for Self-employed Individuals

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) Taxable benefit of \$2,000 a month for up to 4 months. [Get the details.](#)

Access to Credit: Women Entrepreneurs

Support for Women Entrepreneurs

The government is providing new funding through the Women Entrepreneurship Strategy (WES) to provide timely support and advice to women entrepreneurs facing hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. [Get the details.](#)

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The City of Barrie is working with our industry partners with updating this document regularly to be able to identify actions to support businesses in responding to the economic impact of COVID-19.



Small Businesses

Rent Relief

Support for Small Business Tenants and Landlords Now Available

All commercial landlords in Ontario can now apply for rental assistance to help their small business tenants impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The CECRA for small businesses, provides forgivable loans to eligible commercial landlords to help cover 50 per cent of commercial rent for tenants for the months of April, May, and June 2020. The tenant will be responsible for covering up to 25 per cent of rent, so that up to 75 per cent of the rent is covered. [Get the details.](#)

Provincial Support Programs

Financial Support

Electricity Relief

Supporting more affordable electricity bills for eligible residential, farm and small business consumers, by providing approximately \$5.6 billion for electricity cost relief programs in 2020–21. [Get the details.](#)

Ontario-Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance Program

The Ontario Government is committing \$241 million to partner with the federal government and deliver more than \$900 million in urgent relief to small businesses and their landlords through a new program. [Get the details.](#)

COVID-19 Energy Assistance Program for Small Business (CEAP-SB)

The Government of Ontario is making \$8 million available to support small business and registered charities who are struggling to pay their energy bills as a result of COVID-19, as of August 31, 2020. [Get the details.](#)

Rent Relief

Ontario Pauses Commercial Evictions

On June 17, 2020, the Ontario government passed the Protecting Small Business Act, temporarily halting or reversing evictions of commercial tenants and protecting them from being locked out or having their assets seized during COVID-19. [Get the details.](#)

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Additional Support Programs

Financial Support

Canada United Small Business Relief Fund

The Canada United Small Business Relief Fund will be managed by the Ontario Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the national Chamber network in support of other chambers and partners to help small Canadian businesses with their recovery efforts as a result of COVID-19. [Get the details.](#)

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