Employee or Self-employed?

Available electronically only
Is this guide for you?

Use this guide if you are:

■ a payer or employer; or
■ a worker.

It will help you understand how to decide a worker’s employment status.

If you are blind or partially sighted, you can get our publications in braille, large print, etext, or MP3 by going to www.cra.gc.ca/alternate. You can also get our publications and your personalized correspondence in these formats by calling 1-800-959-5525.

La version française de ce guide est intitulée Employé ou travailleur indépendant?.

www.cra.gc.ca
Online services for businesses
You can now:
- authorize the CRA to withdraw an amount from your bank account on date(s) that you choose; and
- enrol for direct deposit, or update the banking information.

To access our online services, go to:
- www.cra.gc.ca/mybusinessaccount, if you are a business owner; or
- www.cra.gc.ca/representatives, if you are an authorized representative or employee.

Online services for representatives
Representatives can now register for online mail on behalf of their business clients by going to www.cra.gc.ca/representatives.
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Before you start

Employee or self-employed worker?

It is important to decide whether a worker is an employee or a self-employed individual. Employment status directly affects a person’s entitlement to employment insurance (EI) benefits under the Employment Insurance Act. It can also have an impact on how a worker is treated under other legislation such as the Canada Pension Plan and the Income Tax Act.

The facts of the working relationship as a whole decide the employment status.

If the worker is an employee (employer-employee relationship), the payer is considered an employer. Employers are responsible for deducting Canada Pension Plan (CPP) contributions, EI premiums, and income tax from remuneration or other amounts they pay to their employees. Employers must remit these deductions along with their share of CPP contributions and EI premiums to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

An employer who fails to deduct the required CPP contributions or EI premiums has to pay both the employer’s share and the employee’s share of any contributions and premiums owing, plus penalties and interest. For more information, go to www.cra.gc.ca/payroll.

Note
Non-arm’s length relationship – If an employee is not dealing at arm’s length with the employer, it is possible that his or her employment is not insurable under the Employment Insurance Act. For more information, read the interpretive article on this subject at www.cra.gc.ca/cppeiexplained.

If the worker is a self-employed individual and in a business relationship, he or she is considered to have a business. For more information, go to www.cra.gc.ca/business.

Employment insurance for self-employed individuals

Self-employed individuals may in some circumstances be eligible for certain employment insurance special benefits by contributing to the plan.

For more information, visit Service Canada at www.servicecanada.gc.ca.

Self-employed individuals in Quebec may be eligible for benefits under the Quebec Parental Insurance Plan (QPIP). For more information, visit Revenu Québec at www.rqap.gouv.qc.ca/Index_en.asp.

Requesting a ruling

If a worker or payer is not sure of the worker’s employment status, either party can request a ruling to have the status evaluated. A ruling decides whether a worker is an employee or is self-employed, and whether that worker’s employment is pensionable or insurable. If you have a payroll program account and are registered on My Business Account, you can use the “Request a CPP/EI ruling” service in My Business Account at www.cra.gc.ca/mybusinessaccount.

An authorized representative for the payer can request a ruling electronically at www.cra.gc.ca/representatives.

A payer or a worker can request a ruling by sending a letter or a filled out Form CPT1, Request for a Ruling as to the Status of a Worker Under the Canada Pension Plan and/or the Employment Insurance Act, to their tax services office. You can get this form at www.cra.gc.ca/forms or by calling 1-800-959-5525. For a list of our tax services offices and tax centres, go to www.cra.gc.ca/iso.

Note
This guide does not replace a formal request for a ruling.

Time limit for requesting a ruling

A worker or an employer can request a ruling before June 30 of the year following the year to which the question relates. For example, if the employment took place in 2015, the ruling request has to be made before June 30, 2016.

Filing an appeal

If a CPP/EI ruling has been issued and the worker or payer does not agree with the decision, either party has the right to file an appeal within 90 days after being notified of the CPP/EI ruling.

If a CPP/EI payroll notice of assessment has been issued, the payer has the right to file an appeal within 90 days after being notified of that payroll assessment.

To appeal a CPP/EI ruling decision or a payroll notice of assessment, you can:

■ access My Business Account at www.cra.gc.ca/mybusinessaccount, if you are a business, and select “Register a formal dispute (Appeal)” for your payroll program account;

■ access My Account at www.cra.gc.ca/myaccount, if you are an individual, select “Register my formal dispute,” and choose “CPP/EI ruling” in the subject area;

■ access Represent a Client at www.cra.gc.ca/representatives. If you represent a business, select “Register a formal dispute (Appeal)” for a payroll program account. If you represent an individual, select “Register my formal dispute”, and then choose “CPP/EI ruling” in the subject area;

■ use Form CPT100, Appeal of a Ruling Under the Canada Pension Plan and/or Employment Insurance Act, to appeal a CPP/EI ruling;

■ use Form CPT101, Appeal of an Assessment Under the Canada Pension Plan and/or Employment Insurance Act, to appeal a payroll notice of assessment; or

■ write to the chief of appeals at your tax services office or tax centre explaining why you do not agree with the ruling or payroll notice of assessment and provide all related facts. Include a copy of the CPP/EI ruling letter or payroll notice of assessment. The addresses of our tax services offices and tax centres are available...

www.cra.gc.ca
at www.cra.gc.ca/tso. The addresses of our tax centres are also listed at page 12 of this guide.

For more information on how to appeal a CPP/EI ruling decision or a payroll notice of assessment, see Booklet P133, Your Appeal Rights – Canada Pension Plan and Employment Insurance Coverage.

**Employment status**

Certain factors have to be considered when deciding if a worker is an employee or a self-employed individual.

These factors differ if the contract is formed in the province of Quebec or in another province or territory. Usually, the province or territory where the contract was formed will decide which set of factors to use.

*Note*

In a written contract, the parties may state that in the event of a disagreement about the contents of the contract, it is to be interpreted under the Quebec law (civil code), even though the contract was formed, for example, in Ontario (common law). Depending on where the contract is formed, unless it is stated differently in the written contract, use the set of factors appropriate for your situation.

**Deciding a worker’s employment status in a province or territory other than Quebec**

When we examine whether a person is an employee or a self-employed individual, the key question we ask is whether the person is engaged to carry out services as a person in business on his or her own account, or as an employee. To do this, we examine the total relationship between the worker and the payer, using a two-step approach.

**Step 1**

We ask the worker and the payer what their intent was when they entered into the working arrangement. Did the two parties intend to enter into a contract of service (employer-employee relationship) or did they intend to enter into a contract for services (business relationship)?

We need to know how they defined their working relationship and why they defined it as such.

Sometimes the intention is clear, and both parties are in agreement (common intent). Sometimes the intent can be found in a written agreement. Sometimes the two parties have a different understanding as to the status of their working relationship, in which case there is no common intent.

Workers and payers can set up their affairs as they see fit; however, it is very important that the employment status they have chosen is reflected in the actual terms and conditions of the working relationship.

**Step 2**

We ask the worker and the payer questions that will help us understand the working relationship and allow us to verify whether the intent of the parties is reflected in the facts.

These questions relate to the following elements:

- the level of control the payer has over the worker’s activities;
- whether the worker provides the tools and equipment;
- whether the worker can subcontract the work or hire assistants;
- the degree of financial risk the worker takes;
- the degree of responsibility for investment and management the worker holds;
- the worker’s opportunity for profit; and
- any other relevant factors, such as written contracts.

We look at the answers separately for each element and then together.

We consider whether they reflect the stated intention and we decide if the actual working conditions are more consistent with a contract of service or with a contract for services.

**Factors to consider**

To help you understand the process, we explain each factor below and show some indicators that the worker may be an employee or a self-employed individual.

**Control**

Control is the ability, authority, or right of a payer to exercise control over a worker concerning the manner in which the work is done and what work will be done.

**Degree of control or autonomy**

Consider the degree of control held by the payer or the degree of autonomy held by the worker.

The actual degree of control will vary with the type of work and the skills of the worker.

Deciding the degree of control can be difficult when examining the employment of professionals such as engineers, doctors, and IT consultants. Because of their expertise and specialized training, they may need little or no specific direction in their daily activities. When examining the factor of control, it is necessary to focus on both the payer’s control over the worker’s daily activities, and the payer’s influence over the worker.

**Payer’s right to exercise control**

It is the right of the payer to exercise control that is relevant, not whether the payer actually exercises this right.

It is the control of a payer over a worker that is relevant, and not the control of a payer over the end result of a product or service purchased.
Indicators showing that the worker is an employee
■ The relationship is one of subordination. The payer will often direct, scrutinize, and effectively control many elements of how and when the work is carried out.
■ The payer controls the worker with respect to both the results of the work and the method used to do the work.
■ The payer chooses and controls the method and amount of pay. Salary negotiations may still take place in an employer-employee relationship.
■ The worker requires permission to work for other payers while working for this payer.
■ Where the schedule is irregular, priority on the worker’s time is an indication of control over the worker.
■ The payer decides what jobs the worker will do.
■ The worker receives training or direction from the payer on how to do the work. The overall work environment between the worker and the payer is one of subordination.
■ The payer chooses to listen to the worker’s suggestions but has the final word.

Indicators showing that the worker is a self-employed individual
■ A self-employed individual usually works independently.
■ The worker does not have anyone overseeing his or her activities.
■ The worker is usually free to work when and for whom he or she chooses and may provide his or her services to different payers at the same time.
■ The worker can accept or refuse work from the payer.
■ The working relationship between the payer and the worker does not present a degree of continuity, loyalty, security, subordination, or integration, all of which are generally associated with an employer-employee relationship.

Tools and equipment
Consider if the worker owns and provides tools and equipment to accomplish the work. Contractual control of, and responsibility for, an asset in a rental or lease situation is also considered under this factor.

What is relevant is the significant investment in the tools and equipment along with the cost of replacement, repair, and insurance. A worker who has made a significant investment is likely to retain a right over the use of these assets, diminishing the payer’s control over how the work is carried out. In addition, a significant investment in tools and equipment and the maintenance and replacement costs associated with these assets may place the worker at the risk of a loss.

Note
Tools and equipment can vary widely in terms of value and can include everything from wrenches and hammers, to specialized clothing, appliances, stethoscopes, musical instruments, computers, and vehicles such as trucks and tractors.

Self-employed individuals often supply the tools and equipment required for a contract. As a result, the ownership of tools and equipment by a worker is more commonly associated with a business relationship.

However, employees sometimes also have to provide their own tools. The courts have acknowledged that because a worker is required to provide tools of the trade, this does not in itself mean that the worker is a self-employed individual. For example, many skilled tradespeople such as auto mechanics have to supply their own tools, even if they are full-time employees.

Indicators showing that the worker is an employee
■ The payer supplies most of the tools and equipment the worker needs. In addition, the payer is responsible for repair, maintenance, and insurance costs.
■ The worker supplies the tools and equipment and the payer reimburses the worker for their use.
■ The payer retains the right of use over the tools and equipment provided to the worker.

Indicators showing that the worker is a self-employed individual
■ The worker provides the tools and equipment needed for the work. In addition, the worker is responsible for the costs of repairs, insurance, and maintenance to the tools and equipment.
■ The worker has made a significant investment in the tools and equipment and the worker retains the right over the use of these assets.
■ The worker supplies his or her own workspace, is responsible for the costs to maintain it, and does substantial work from that site.

Subcontracting work or hiring assistants
Consider if the worker can subcontract work or hire assistants. This factor can help decide a worker’s business presence because subcontracting work or hiring assistants can affect their chance of profit and risk of loss.

Indicators showing that the worker is an employee
■ The worker cannot hire helpers or assistants.
■ The worker does not have the ability to hire and send replacements. The worker has to do the work personally.

Indicators showing that the worker is a self-employed individual
■ The worker does not have to carry out the services personally. He or she can hire another party to either do the work or help do the work, and pays the costs for doing so.
■ The payer has no say in whom the worker hires.
Financial risk
Consider the degree of financial risk taken by the worker. Consider if there are any fixed ongoing costs incurred by the worker or any expenses that are not reimbursed.

Usually, employees will not have any financial risk as their expenses will be reimbursed, and they will not have fixed ongoing costs.

Self-employed individuals, on the other hand, can have financial risk and incur losses because they usually pay fixed monthly costs even if work is not currently being done.

Employees and self-employed individuals may be reimbursed for business or travel expenses. Consider only the expenses that are not reimbursed by the payer.

Indicators showing that the worker is an employee
■ The worker is not usually responsible for any operating expenses.
■ Generally, the working relationship between the worker and the payer is continuous.
■ The worker is not financially liable if he or she does not fulfil the obligations of the contract.
■ The payer chooses and controls the method and amount of pay.

Indicators showing that the worker is a self-employed individual
■ The worker hires helpers to assist in the work. The worker pays the hired helpers.
■ The worker does a substantial amount of work from his or her own workspace and incurs expenses relating to the operation of that workspace.
■ The worker is hired for a specific job rather than an ongoing relationship.
■ The worker is financially liable if he or she does not fulfil the obligations of the contract.
■ The worker does not receive any protection or benefits from the payer.
■ The worker advertises and actively markets his or her services.

Opportunity for profit
Consider whether the worker can realize a profit or incur a loss, as this indicates that a worker controls the business aspects of services rendered and that a business relationship likely exists. To have a chance of a profit and a risk of a loss, a worker has to have potential proceeds and expenses, and one could exceed the other.

Employees normally do not have the chance of a profit and risk of a loss even though their remuneration can vary depending on the terms of their employment contracts. For example, employees working on a commission or piece-rate basis, or employees with a productivity bonus clause in their contract can increase their earnings based on their productivity. This increase in income is not normally viewed as a profit, as it is not the excess of proceeds over expenses.

Employees may have expenses directly related to their employment, such as automobile expenses, and board and lodging costs. Normally, expenses would not place employees at risk of incurring a loss because it is unlikely that the expenses would be greater than their remuneration.

Self-employed individuals normally have the chance of profit or risk of loss, because they have the ability to pursue and accept contracts as they see fit. They can negotiate the price (or unilaterally set their prices) for their services and have the right to offer those services to more than one payer. Self-employed individuals will normally incur expenses to carry out the terms and conditions of their contracts, and to manage those expenses to maximize net earnings. Self-employed individuals can increase their proceeds and/or decrease their expenses in an effort to increase profit.

This factor has to be considered from the worker’s perspective, not the payer’s. It is for the most part an assessment of the degree to which the worker can control his or her proceeds and expenses.

Employees generally do not share in profits or suffer losses incurred by the payer’s business.

The method of payment may help to decide if the worker has the opportunity to make a profit or incur a loss. In an employer-employee relationship, the worker is normally guaranteed a return for the work done and is usually paid on an hourly, daily, weekly, or similar basis.

Similarly, some self-employed individuals may be paid on an hourly basis. However, when a worker is paid a flat rate for the work done, it generally indicates a business relationship, especially if the worker incurs expenses in doing the work.
Indicators showing that the worker is an employee

■ The worker is not normally in a position to realize a business profit or loss.
■ The worker is entitled to benefit plans that are normally offered only to employees. These include registered pension plans, and group accident, health, and dental insurance plans.

Indicators showing that the worker is a self-employed individual

■ The worker can hire a substitute and the worker pays the substitute.
■ The worker is compensated by a flat fee and incurs expenses in carrying out the services.

Deciding a worker’s employment status in the province of Quebec

When we examine whether a person is an employee or self-employed individual in the province of Quebec, we examine the relationship between the worker and the payer, using a three-step approach.

Step 1
We ask the worker and the payer what their intent was when they entered into the working arrangement. We need to know how they defined their working relationship and why they defined it as such.

Sometimes the intention is clear, and both parties are in agreement (common intent). Sometimes the intent can be found in a written agreement. Sometimes the two parties have a different understanding of the status of their employment relationship, in which case there is no common intent.

Workers and payers can set up their affairs as they see fit; however, it is very important that the employment status they have chosen is reflected in the actual terms and conditions of the working relationship.

To decide the parties’ intentions, we get a copy of the contract, or testimony by the parties and examine the parties’ actions. Both parties’ intentions form part of the context that we analyse.

Step 2
We look to see if the employment meets the definition of a contract of employment, or of a business contract (contract for services) defined in the Civil Code of Québec by considering the following factors:

■ carrying out the work;
■ remuneration; and
■ relationship of subordination.

It is important to gather the facts and analyze them in light of the specific context of the employment and the intent of the parties.

Step 3
We compare each party’s intentions with their actual working relationship. We decide whether the conditions of the working relationship represent the status that the parties have chosen and that they are consistent with the definitions of the Civil Code of Québec.

Factors to consider
Examine the relationship between the worker and the payer by considering the factors outlined in Step 2.

To help you understand the process, we explain each factor and provide some indicators to show whether a relationship of subordination exists.

Carrying out the work
Whether there is an employer-employee relationship or a business relationship, the worker has to do the work. It can be part-time or full-time for a specified or indeterminate period.

Remuneration
Remuneration means how a worker is paid. It includes all consideration and benefits that have a monetary value. Whether there is an employer-employee relationship or a business relationship, the worker will receive remuneration in exchange for work. The remuneration can be calculated by time, by the piece, or in another manner.

Relationship of subordination
This factor helps distinguish the employer-employee relationship from a business relationship.

The relationship of subordination is the capacity, the authority, or the right of a payer to exercise a control over the worker’s activities and the manner in which the work is done.

Degree of control or autonomy
Consider the degree of control held by the payer or the degree of autonomy held by the worker.

The actual degree of control will vary with the type of work and the skills of the worker.

Deciding the degree of control can be difficult when examining the employment of professionals such as engineers, doctors, and IT consultants. Because of their expertise and specialized training, they may require little or no specific direction in their daily activities. When examining the factor of control, it is necessary to focus on both the payer’s control over the worker’s daily activities, and the payer’s influence over the worker.

Payer’s right to exercise control
It is the right of the payer to exercise control that is relevant, not whether the payer actually exercises this right.

It is the control of a payer over a worker that is relevant, and not the control of a payer over the end result of a product or service that he or she has purchased.
Indicators showing that the worker is an employee

■ The payer directs and controls many elements of how the work is done (such as what, who, where, when, and how).
■ The payer controls the worker’s absences, such as sick leave or vacation leave.
■ The payer controls the worker with respect to the results of the work and the method used to do the work.
■ The payer creates the work schedule and establishes the worker’s rules of conduct.
■ The worker has to do the work personally.
■ The worker has to remit activity reports to the payer.
■ The worker’s activities are reserved to a single payer (exclusivity of services).
■ The payer can impose disciplinary actions on a worker.
■ The worker receives training or direction from the payer on how to do the work.
■ The worker accepts integration in the payer’s business to have the latter benefit from his work.
■ The parties have inserted a non-competition clause in their written contract.

Indicators showing that the worker is a self-employed individual

■ The worker is usually free to work when and for whom he or she chooses and may provide his or her services to different payers at the same time.
■ The worker does not have to carry out the services personally. He or she can hire another party to either do the work or help do the work.
■ The worker can generally choose the time and the manner in which the work will be done.
■ The worker does not need to be at the payer’s premises.
■ The worker can accept or refuse work from the payer.
■ The working relationship between the payer and the worker does not present a degree of continuity, loyalty, security, subordination, or integration, all of which are generally associated with an employer-employee relationship.

Note
Since in certain working relationships it can be difficult to decide whether there is a relationship of subordination, we can also take into consideration indicators used in common law, referred to above in Step 2 of the section “Deciding a worker’s employment status in a province or territory other than Quebec.”

Special situations

Special rules concerning CPP, EI and income tax apply to the following occupations:
■ barbers and hairdressers;
■ taxi drivers and drivers of other passenger-carrying vehicles;
■ emergency services volunteers;
■ temporary help services;
■ caregiver, baby-sitter, or domestic worker;
■ employees outside of Canada;
■ fishers;
■ Indians;
■ placement and employment agency workers;
■ seasonal agricultural workers; and
■ special or extra duty pay for police officers.

For more information on special situations, see Guide T4001, Employers’ Guide – Payroll Deductions and Remittances, or go to www.cra.gc.ca/payroll.
Online services

My Account

Using the CRA’s My Account service is a fast, easy, and secure way to access and manage your tax and benefit information online, seven days a week.

To log in to My Account, you can use either your CRA user ID and password or the Sign-in Partner option.

An authorized representative can access most of these online services through “Represent a Client” at www.cra.gc.ca/representatives.

For more information, go to www.cra.gc.ca/myaccount.

Handling business taxes online

Save time using the CRA’s online services for businesses. You can:

- authorize a representative, an employee, or a group of employees, who has registered with Represent a Client, for online access to your business accounts;
- request or delete authorization online through Represent a Client, if you are a representative;
- change addresses;
- file or amend information returns without a web access code;
- register for online mail, get email notifications, and view your mail online;
- authorize the withdrawal of a pre-determined amount from your bank account;
- provide a nil remittance;
- request the transfer of a misallocated credit;
- enrol for direct deposit, update banking information, and view direct deposit transactions;
- request a refund;
- view your account balance and transactions;
- register a formal dispute (Appeal);
- request a CPP/EI ruling; and
- do much more.

To register or log in to our online services, go to:

- www.cra.gc.ca/mybusinessaccount, if you are a business owner; or
- www.cra.gc.ca/representatives, if you are an authorized representative or employee.

For more information, go to www.cra.gc.ca/businessonline.

Receiving your CRA mail online

You, or your representative (authorized at a level 2), can choose to receive most of your CRA mail for your business online.

When you or your representative registers for online mail, we will no longer mail most correspondence items. Instead, an email notification will be sent to the email address(es) provided when there is new mail available to view online. To register, select the “Manage online mail” service and follow the easy steps.

Using our online mail service is faster and easier than managing paper correspondence.

Authorizing the withdrawal of a pre-determined amount from your bank account

Pre-authorized debit (PAD) is an online, self-service, payment option. Through this option, you agree to authorize the CRA to withdraw a pre-determined payment from your bank account to pay tax on a specific date or dates. You can set up a PAD agreement using the CRA’s secure My Business Account service at www.cra.gc.ca/mybusinessaccount. PADs are flexible and managed by you. You can view historical records, modify, cancel, or skip a payment. For more information, go to www.canada.ca/payments and select the “Pre-authorized debit.”

Electronic payments

Make your payment using:

- your financial institution’s online or telephone banking services;
- the CRA’s My Payment service at www.cra.gc.ca/mypayment; or
- pre-authorized debit at www.cra.gc.ca/mybusinessaccount.

For more information on all payment options, go to www.canada.ca/payments.
What if you need help?

If you need more information after reading this guide, go to www.cra.gc.ca/payroll or call 1-800-959-5525.

Direct deposit

Direct deposit is a faster, more convenient, reliable, and secure way to get your refund directly into your account at a financial institution in Canada.

For more information, go to www.cra.gc.ca/directdeposit.

Forms and publications

To get our forms and publications, go to www.cra.gc.ca/forms or call 1-800-959-5525.

Electronic mailing lists

We can notify you by email when new information on a subject of interest to you is available on our website.

To subscribe to our electronic mailing lists, go to www.cra.gc.ca/lists.

Teletypewriter (TTY) users

TTY users can call 1-800-665-0354 for bilingual assistance during regular business hours.

Court decisions

- Wiebe Door Services Ltd. v. Canada (M.N.R.) [1986] 3 F.C. 553 (A-531-85)
- Sagaz Industries Canada Inc. v. 671122 Ontario Ltd. 2001 SCC 59 (27820)
- Wolf v. Canada 2002 FCA 96 (A-563-00)
- 9041-6868 Québec Inc. v. Canada (M.N.R) 2005 FCA 334 (A-559-04)
- Royal Winnipeg Ballet v. Canada (M.N.R.) 2006 FCA 87 (A-443-04)
- Combined Insurance Company of America v. Canada (M.N.R) 2007 FCA 60 (A-469-05)
- TBT Personnel Services Inc. v. Canada 2011 FCA 256 (A-388-10)

Legal material


Interpretive articles

To view articles that will help you understand the requirements of the Canada Pension Plan and the Employment Insurance Act, go to www.cra.gc.ca/cppeiexplained.

Tax centres

- Jonquière Tax Centre
  2251 René-Lévesque Boulevard
  Jonquière QC  G7S 5J1
- Shawinigan-Sud Tax Centre
  4695 12e Avenue
  Shawinigan-Sud QC  G9P 5H9
- St. John’s Tax Centre
  290 Empire Avenue
  St. John’s NL  A1B 3Z1
- Sudbury Tax Centre
  1050 Notre Dame Avenue
  Sudbury ON  P3A 5C1
- Summerside Tax Centre
  275 Pope Road
  Summerside PE  C1N 6A2
- Surrey Tax Centre
  9755 King George Boulevard
  Surrey BC  V3T 5E1
- Winnipeg Tax Centre
  66 Stapon Road
  Winnipeg MB  R3C 3M2

For a list of our tax services offices, go to www.cra.gc.ca/tso.

Service complaints

You can expect to be treated fairly under clear and established rules, and get a high level of service each time you deal with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA); see the Taxpayer Bill of Rights.

If you are not satisfied with the service you received, try to resolve the matter with the CRA employee you have been dealing with or call the telephone number provided in the CRA’s correspondence. If you do not have contact information, go to www.cra.gc.ca/contact.

If you still disagree with the way your concerns were addressed, you can ask to discuss the matter with the employee’s supervisor.

If you are still not satisfied, you can file a service complaint by filling out Form RC193, Service-Related Complaint.
If the CRA has not resolved your service-related complaint, you can submit a complaint with the Office of the Taxpayers' Ombudsman.

For more information, go to www.cra.gc.ca/complaints or see Booklet RC4420, Information on CRA – Service Complaints.

**Reprisal complaint**

If you believe that you have experienced reprisal, fill out Form RC459, Reprisal Complaint.

For more information about reprisal complaints, go to www.cra.gc.ca/reprisalcomplaints.

**Tax information videos**

We have a number of tax information videos for small businesses on topics such as business income and expenses, GST/HST, and payroll. To watch our videos, go to www.cra.gc.ca/videogallery.