



Paid Sick Days Extended Until December 31st, 2021

On September 1st, the Ontario Government announced that it will be extending the Ontario Income Protection Benefit (three days of paid infectious disease emergency leave for all employees in the province) through the end of 2021. Originally, the program was set to expire on September 25th.

On April 29, 2021, the Ontario Government amended the [Employment Standards Act, 2000](#) to require employers to provide employees with paid emergency leave because of certain reasons related to COVID-19. The leave was granted to all employees, including hourly and temporary employees, with a payment of up to \$200 per day.

The employer will still have to up-front these costs but will be [reimbursed by the province for the full amount through the WSIB](#). The program is not intended to duplicate existing paid sick leave policies. If an employer's existing sick leave policy is equivalent or better, then this program will not apply.

The Ontario Income Protection Benefit is now set to expire on December 31st 2021.

It is important to note that the three-day leave is a cumulative total over the life of the program. So, an employee cannot take three days because they feel sick this week and another three additional days in two weeks because they feel sick again.

To Apply for the employer reimbursement please click [here](#)

For more information, please contact Steven Crombie (905-629-7766 or steven.crombie@oswca.org).