

Support for coal workers

Financial supports

Retirement, re-employment, relocation, and education assistance

How this program can help

The Coal Workforce Transition Program provides financial assistance for: bridging to re-employment or retirement, relocation, or educational costs.

Eligibility

You are eligible if you have worked for at least one year for one or more employer affected by the coal-fired electricity generation phase-out. Your layoff notice must be dated January 2, 2018 or later.

If you are laid off while on maternity/paternity leave, or as a result of bumping by a worker at an approved thermal coal plant or mine, or while you are an apprentice in your training period, you may be eligible for financial assistance.

Bridge-to-re-employment

The bridge-to-re-employment relief grant provides financial assistance as you search for a new job.

You will receive 75% of your previous weekly earnings when combined with your Employment Insurance benefits.

Payments will be issued every two weeks for 45 weeks or until you gain full-time employment, whichever is shorter.

Bridge-to-retirement

The bridge-to-retirement relief grant provides financial assistance if you wish to retire, but are not yet eligible for your employer pension.

You will receive 75% of your previous weekly earnings until you are eligible for your employer pension, up to 72 weeks, or when gross employment income is greater than the relief payment, whichever time period is shorter. Payments will be issued every 2 weeks.

If you are eligible for your employer pension but wish to delay it, you are not eligible for this relief grant.

Relocation assistance

If you have moved at least 40 kilometres to start a new job, you may be eligible for up to \$5,000 to pay for moving-related expenses.

You will receive relocation assistance only after you have been laid off and have moved for a confirmed new full-time job, or if you become self-employed.

The one-time lump sum payment will be made after the move takes place and the application and supporting documents have been received and approved.

Tuition voucher

The Coal and Electricity Tuition Voucher will provide a maximum of \$12,000 to pursue post-secondary education to train for a new career.

The voucher can be redeemed at any publically funded post-secondary institution in Alberta, for part-time or full-time study, as well as apprenticeship technical training and pre-employment programs.

The vouchers are valid for five years from your lay-off date and can be used over multiple years and transferred between post-secondary institutions.

For more info and to get your application guidelines and forms visit: alberta.ca/coal-workers

Send us an email: coalsupports@gov.ab.ca

Call Alberta Supports (1-877-644-9992) toll free and choose menu option: "For more information on coal transition program"