

Families receiving social assistance will benefit from the proposed Canada Child Benefit without any provincial 'clawback'

Almost 260,000 children in families who receive social assistance will benefit from the full amount of their Canada Child Benefit (CCB) payment. The province announced recently that families receiving social assistance will fully benefit from the proposed new federal Canada Child Benefit (CCB) without any provincial 'clawback'.

The CCB will replace the Canada Child Tax Benefit, including the National Child Benefit Supplement, and the Universal Child Care Benefit.

The new CCB is expected to take effect on July 1, 2016. The province has taken steps to ensure that the full amount of the CCB benefit will be paid directly to families and will not affect the amount of, or eligibility for:

- Ontario Works benefits,
- Ontario Disability Support Program benefits,
- Child care subsidies under the Child Care and Early Years Act,
- Healthy Smiles Ontario,
- Rent-geared-to-income subsidies,
- Portable housing benefits.

The maximum annual benefit will be \$6,400 per child under the age of six and \$5,400 per child aged six to 17. The vast majority of families receiving social assistance in Ontario will receive these maximum amounts.

The newly introduced benefit is expected to cut child poverty from about 11.2% to 6.7 % across Canada. Ontario has the country's highest child poverty rate at 14.2%. The rate is expected to see a drop to 8.8% once the benefit is introduced. Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister for Families, Children and Social Development, calls the newly introduced benefit "the most significant policy innovation in a generation."

Child poverty by numbers:

- **\$5150** - Maximum annual payment a single parent with one child under age six currently receives in federal child benefits
- **\$6,400** - Maximum payment the same parent will receive under the new CCB
- **460,000** or **6.7%** - Expected number/percentage of Canadian children living in poverty after CCB introduced
- **750,000** or **11.2%** - Canadian children living in poverty, according to Statistics Canada's Low-Income Cut-Off, after taxes
- **\$24,066** - Low-Income Cut-Off, after taxes, for single parent with one child in 2013

Sources:

<https://news.ontario.ca/mcss/en/2016/06/ontario-ensuring-vulnerable-families-keep-full-canada-child-benefit.html>

<https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2016/06/15/child-benefit-to-pull-record-number-of-kids-out-of-poverty-minister-says.html>

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