



EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WHILE LIVING IN THE US

It is recommended that you call the Service Canada Interstate Department once you know you are being posted OUTCAN to the US as each case is different.

If you do not call the Interstate Department for Employment Insurance (EI), you may get inconsistent or incorrect information. The Service Canada Interstate Department are matter experts for out of country assistance with EI benefits.

When can I apply as a spouse of a military member for EI?

You should apply as soon as possible once you have stopped working, even if your employer has not issued your Record of Employment (ROE) yet. Complete the application process online, this takes approximately 60 minutes to complete. If you delay applying for benefits beyond four weeks after your last day of work, you risk losing benefits.

Eligibility to receive EI benefits is based on the validity date of your Employment Authorization Document (EAD). Therefore your benefits will not start until after you've received an EAD.

You will be asked to fill out a questionnaire (INS5247) for your file after applying for benefits. [INS5247: Interstate USA Employment Authorization Questionnaire](#) is used to provide evidence of your legal right to seek and immediately accept employment while residing in the US, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico or Virgin Islands.

Once I get to the US will I need to do anything to continue receiving my EI Benefits?

Yes, you may be required to show proof of eligibility to work. This means you must have an Employment Authorization Document (EAD). You cannot apply for your EAD until you move into the US, as you must have your I-94 from US Customs before the process can begin. It is highly recommended that you apply for your EAD as soon as you arrive in the US. However, you can start the process after your HHT. See out [Applying for an EAD FAQ](#)

Am I eligible for EI Maternity or Paternity benefits as a spouse of military member while in the US?

You are eligible for Mat/Pat benefits, but you need to have worked for an employer insured under Canada's EI program. For further details on your eligibility, see [Regular Benefits Eligibility & Canadian Armed Forces](#). You DO NOT require an EAD if only applying for EI Maternity or Paternity benefits.

For the CAF member, see your OR for eligibility.

Can an OUTCAN spouse working for a Canadian company who is being cross-posted (moving to another state) apply for EI? Yes, as long as you were working for an employer insured under Canada's EI program and you have weeks to claim, you could be eligible.

Steps to Claiming EI OUTCAN US?

1. Call the Service Canada Interstate Department at 1-877-486-1650
2. Complete the application process [online](#), this takes approximately 60 minutes to complete. Complete this process even if you're still in Canada and/or do not have your Record of Employment (ROE).
3. Wait for your ROE from the last 52 weeks of employment, mail this into Service Canada unless your employer submits them electronically.
4. If you are entitled to receive benefits, you should receive your first claim within 28 days of the date when your claim was received. If you are entitled to receive benefits you will be notified by phone or mail.
5. You will receive an EI access code shortly after you file your application - this is needed to submit your bi-weekly reports. Please note this does not necessarily mean your application is approved.

Helpful websites about how to apply for EI

- [Applying for EI](#)
- [How to file a claim for Canadian Employment Insurance Benefits if you reside outside Canada](#)
- [Employment Insurance and workers and residents outside Canada](#)
- [EI - Workers and residents outside of Canada - Overview](#)

Out of Canada Claims Unit



Service Canada Centre
Sub-Unit of Interstate Claim Processing
19 Lisgar Street
Sudbury, Ontario P3E 6L1
Attn: Interstate Overseas
1-877-486-1650

Note: Benefits are paid in CAD and the easiest method of payment is direct deposit to a Canadian account.

This information is offered to help direct you and your family to the correct locations to find the benefits and services available during your OUTCAN posting. Please be vigilant in doing the research appropriate for your situation, as each is different!

