In recognition of the dedication, long hours and increased risk of working to contain the COVID-19 outbreak, the Ontario government is providing frontline staff with a temporary pandemic payment.

Toronto - This increase will provide four dollars per hour worked on top of existing hourly wages, regardless of the qualified employee’s hourly wage. In addition, employees working over 100 hours per month would receive lump sum payments of $250 per month for each of the next four months. This means that eligible employees working an average of 40 hours per week would receive $3,550 in additional compensation. Those eligible to receive the payment will be staff working in long-term care homes, retirement homes, emergency shelters, supportive housing, social services congregate care settings, corrections institutions and youth justice facilities, as well as those providing home and community care and some staff in hospitals.

The pandemic pay is designed to support employees on the frontlines of COVID-19 and does not apply to management. Eligible workplaces and workers include:

**Health care and long-term care Eligible workplaces**

* Acute hospitals
* Long-term care homes (including private, municipal and not-for-profit homes)
* Licensed retirement homes
* Home and community care

**Eligible workers**

* Personal support workers
* Registered nurses
* Registered practical nurses
* Nurse practitioners
* Attendant care workers
* Auxiliary staff, including: Porters, cook, custodian, housekeeping, laundry facilities and other key workers
* Developmental services workers
* Mental health and addictions workers

This Pandemic Pay will be effective for 16 weeks, from April 24th until August 13th, and is expected to support over 350,000 frontline workers.