

Cost Saving Guide

1. If you provided in-home care for a parent or grandparent (including in-laws) 65 years of age or over, or an infirm dependent relative, a federal tax credit may be available. Certain provincial credits may also be available. Also, the caregiver may claim related training costs as a medical expense credit.
2. Interest paid on qualifying student loans is eligible for a tax credit.
3. Individuals receiving qualifying retroactive lump-sum payments over \$3,000 may be allowed to use a special mechanism to compute the tax.
4. Children of low or middle income parents may be entitled to a Canada Learning Bond of \$500 in the initial year and \$100 per year until age 15. Please contact us for details.
5. An investment tax credit is available in respect of each eligible apprentice employed in one of the Red Seal Trades. Also, a \$1,000 grant is available for first and second year apprentices.
6. Some provinces have tax credits for seniors with home renovation expenses (example Ontario and British Columbia)
7. Any person eligible for the disability tax credit, or their parent or legal representative, may establish a Registered Disability Savings Plan which receives government grants. Please contact us for details.
8. The age limit for maturing Registered Pension Plans, Registered Retirement Savings Plans, and Deferred Profit Sharing Plans is 71 years of age.
9. Spouses may jointly elect to have up to 50% of certain pension income reported by the other spouse.
10. Individuals 18 years of age and older may deposit up to \$5000 per year into a Tax-Free Savings Account commencing in 2009. Please ask us for details. This has increased to \$5,500 for 2013.
11. If required income or Forms have not been reported in the past to the CRA, a Voluntary Disclosure to the CRA may be available to avoid penalties. Contact us for details.
12. Canada Pension Plan (CPP) receipts may be split between spouses aged 65 and over.

13. It may be advantageous to apply to receive CPP early (age 60 – 65) or late (age 65 – 70). Contact us for details.

14. It may be advantageous to delay receiving Old Age Security from age 65 – 70. Call us for details.