



NEWS RELEASE

Government of Canada announces new personal protective equipment and critical supplies contingency reserve for essential service organizations

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Ottawa, Ontario

Public Services and Procurement Canada

The Government of Canada is working to ensure essential service organizations have access to the key supplies they need to keep themselves and others safe during COVID-19.

Today, the Honourable Anita Anand, Minister of Public Services and Procurement, announced that, as part of the Safe Restart agreement, the Government of Canada is establishing the Essential Services Contingency Reserve, which essential service organizations outside the frontline healthcare response can apply for as a temporary measure for urgent access to personal protective equipment (PPE) and other critical supplies.

The reserve, which will begin operations on August 3, 2020, will help non-healthcare essential service organizations bridge urgent, short-term gaps in their supplies when other sources of supply are unavailable, to avoid any significant disruptions in services to Canadians. Eligible associations and organizations will be able to apply online for a range of equipment, available for purchase at cost. Full details on the reserve, including the application process and eligibility criteria, are available on the Essential Services Contingency Reserve web page.

This reserve marks another important step in providing support to help Canada manage through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Quotes

“Across the country, private, public and not-for-profit organizations are providing a wide range of essential services—from keeping food on our tables to caring for vulnerable populations and shipping goods from coast to coast to coast. Through the Essential Services Contingency Reserve, the government is making sure these organizations can continue operating if they have short-term challenges obtaining PPE when all other sources of supply are unavailable. This means Canadians can rest assured that they will continue to receive the essential services on which they depend as Canada continues its recovery from the pandemic.”

*The Honourable Anita Anand
Minister of Public Services and Procurement*

Quick facts

- The Government of Canada continues to procure PPE and medical equipment on a priority basis for frontline healthcare workers.
- Organizations identified as essential service providers, [as defined by Public Safety Canada](#), are eligible to apply to access the reserve.
- The reserve will serve as an emergency backstop to help organizations bridge short-term gaps in their supply of PPE.
- The reserve will stock PPE and critical supplies, including KN95 respirators, surgical masks, non-medical cloth and disposable masks, gowns, face shields, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes and gloves.

- The Government of Canada recently launched the PPE Supply Hub, where organizations can access information and resources, including consumer guidance on how to buy or sell PPE.
- The Safe Restart agreement will see over \$19 billion invested in protecting the health of Canadians, getting people back to work and preparing for a potential second wave.

Associated links

[Essential Services Contingency Reserve](#)
[Personal Protective Equipment Supply Hub](#)
[Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Canada's response](#)

- 30 -

Information

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