

**Subject:** Government Benefit Changes  
**From:** Jerri Lynn Daum, Individual Marketing Technician  
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Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009, the maximum benefit amounts have remained constant under the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans (CCP and QPP), and the Old Age Security Program (OAS). In addition, employee, employer and self-employed CPP contribution levels have also remained constant.

### Maximum Canada and Quebec Pension Plan Benefits - 2009

| Benefit  | Amount   |  | Comments   |
|--|--|--|--|
| Yearly Maximum Pensionable Earnings (YMPE)                                 | \$46,300.00  |  | Increases each January   |
| Yearly Basic Exemption (YBE)   | \$3,500.00   |  | No change since 1997   |
| Annual Contributions   | \$2,118.60 - employee<br>\$2,118.60 - employer<br>\$4,237.20 - self-employed |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.95% of earning up to YMPE-YBE (eg. 4.95% of (46,300-3,500) = \$42,800)</li> <li>contribution rate 9.9% for self-employed</li> </ul> |
| Retirement Pension (Maximum at age 65)                                     | CPP<br>\$908.75  | QPP<br>\$908.75                              | Maximum monthly Pension is 25% of 1/12 of the average YMPE for the last 5 years.   |
| Death Benefits Lump Sum  | CPP<br>\$2,500.00  | QPP<br>\$2,500.00                            | Equal to 6 times the monthly retirement pension to a maximum of \$2,500  |
| Spouse's Pension:<br>• ages 45 - 54<br>• ages 55 - 64<br>• age 65 or older | \$506.38/mth<br>\$506.38/mth<br>\$545.25/mth                                 | \$765.18/mth<br>\$765.18/mth<br>\$545.25/mth | Maximum Survivors Pensions are indexed to inflation. At age 65 Spouse's Pension equals 60% of calculated Retirement Pension  |
| Orphan's Pension (each child)  | \$213.99/mth   | \$67.95/mth                                  |  |
| Disability Benefits Contributor's Maximum Pension                          | CPP<br>\$1,105.99/mth  | QPP<br>\$1,105.99/mth                        | Equals (Retirement x 0.75 + flat rate (\$424.43)) for contributor  |
| Child's Pension  | \$213.99/mth   | \$67.95/mth                                  |  |



## Old Age Security - 2009 (Indexed Quarterly)

| Benefit   | Amount  | Comments  |
|---|---|---|
| Basic Pension   | \$516.96/mth                                    | Paid to all 10 year residents age 65 or older.  |
| Maximum Spouse's Allowance                                  | \$947.86/mth                                    | Paid to people between the ages of 60 and 64 with a limited income, who are married to GIS recipients.  |
| Extended Spouse's Allowance<br>Maximum For Widow or Widower | \$1050.68/mth                                   | Payable from age 60 - 65 to eligible spouses of OAS pensioners, widows and widowers.  |
| Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) Maximums                 | \$652.51/mth/single<br><br>\$430.90/mth/married | Also for pensioners whose spouse is not receiving OAS or spouse's allowance, both spouses 65 or older and receiving OAS, or a spouse's allowance recipient. |

(Note: OAS pension repayment required (all or part) if individual net income is over \$66,334. The full OAS is eliminated when the individuals net income is \$107,693 or above.)

## Employment Insurance Benefits

| Benefit                       | Amount  | Comments  |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Maximum Benefit               | \$447.00/wk<br>(\$25,921.00/yr)                       | Basic maximum of 55% of maximum insurable earnings for most claimants. Benefit can be reduced by a maximum of 5% if more than 20 weeks collected in the past 5 years (1% decrease for each additional 20 weeks claimed). Benefit can be increased if low income family. |
| Maximum Insurable Earnings    | \$813.46/wk<br>(\$42,300.00/yr)                       | The tiered clawback process remains to discourage unnecessary use of the system by workers with levels of annual income well above the average annual incomes.  |
| Maximum Employee Contribution | 1.73% of gross earnings to a maximum of \$732.00/year | EI premiums are reduced from 1.80% in 2007.   |
| Maximum Employer Contribution | 2.42% of gross earnings to a maximum of \$995.44/year | EI premiums reduced from 2.52% in 2007. Does not include the impact of the New Hires Program for small business.  |

(Benefits are subject to a clawback if income exceeds \$52,000 and less than 21 weeks of benefits have been received in the past five years. If 21 weeks or more of benefits have been received over a five year period claimants will start to have their benefits clawed back when their income exceeds \$42,300.)