**Details on the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)**

Dental offices employers whose business have been affected by COVID-19 can apply for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) when the application portal opens on Monday, April 27th. Employers may be eligible for a subsidy of 75% of employee wages for up to 12 weeks, retroactive from March 15, 2020, to June 6, 2020.

More information on the eligibility and application process are available [here.](https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/subsidy/emergency-wage-subsidy.html)

Government officials anticipate having 90% of applications processed by May 5th with cash flowing shortly after.

Dental office employees do **not** have to be actively working to be eligible for the wage subsidy. Hygienists, assistants and front office staff working outside the clinic can be proactive, maintain relationships with clients, and help to ensure a successful transition to re-opening the office.

Possible tasks include:

·        Developing a strategy to manage the dental hygiene schedule once the office re-opens.

·        Making care calls to clients to answer any questions about their oral health to help maintain a relationship during office closure.

o   Educating clients on the importance of oral health and maintaining contact during the period of social distancing.

o   Educating clients on the importance of resuming regular visits after the period of social distancing

·        Making a list of clients who have not been seen in the last 12-36 months. These clients can be contacted once a date is set to re-open, or later depending on the schedule.

·        Taking online courses and webinars to improve their practice. Topics include continuing education, office management, software use/training, etc.

·        Evaluating the office and supplies to determine what changes will need to be made, managing inventory, office cleaning, etc.