

Parking

Questions & Answers

COVID-19

1. I cancelled my parking, can I automatically get it back?

- You should reapply for parking in [OPRA](#).
- Employees qualified for parking under the [Treasury Board Directive](#)¹ shall be assigned a stall based on this eligibility.
- Employees unjustified under the Treasury Board Directive are subject to your Ministry's normal assignment decision making process for providing assignments within your ministry's remaining parking inventory if available.

2. My ministry made a decision to cancel my parking to give the assignment to a worker that needed to be in the workplace during the pandemic. Will I get my parking back when I return to the workplace?

- It is up to your ministry to make decision for assignments of parking stalls.
- Unless you are justified for parking under the [Treasury Board Directive](#), parking is not guaranteed and is based on availability.
- Your ministry can request additional stalls from Infrastructure on a case-by-case basis,

and Infrastructure will do their best to accommodate where possible.

- This does not stop you from looking for private options available outside of the GOA for parking.

3. Can my ministry give me my parking back in the same lot and location as I had before the pandemic?

- Your ministry parking coordinator will determine where your parking is assigned. Please work with them on specific requests.

4. Can I park in GOA visitor parking or vacant stalls when I come into the office?

- You cannot park in visitor parking or vacant stalls.
- If you want parking, you will need to apply for parking in [OPRA](#).
- If you are parking in employer provided GOA parking, this is a parking benefit and is taxable according to the [Canada Revenue Agency](#)².
- This does not stop you from looking for private options available outside of the GOA for parking.

¹ [Treasury Board Parking Directive](#): 5/2014 governs the provision of parking for all GOA departments

² Canada Revenue Agency. "[Parking](#)".

5. I feel unsafe coming into the office using public transit. Can I get a parking stall?

- You should apply for parking in [OPRA](#).
- Each ministry determines who is eligible for parking based on the [Treasury Board Directive](#) and what they have available. Contact your ministry parking coordinator for options.
- This does not stop you from looking for private options available outside of the GOA for parking.

6. I was given temporary parking due to the pandemic response. Do I have to sign up in OPRA?

- If you were not signed up in [OPRA](#), it is recommended that you do so as soon as possible to tie your temporary parking allocation to your employee profile.
- If you are parking in employer provided GOA parking but are not signed up in OPRA are still receiving a benefit, the onus is on you to declare/report this benefit on your taxes.

7. I received a temporary tag with no expiry date, how long can it be used?

- Infrastructure will advise ministries of a date that temporary tags will become invalid and will work to ensure that there is adequate time to return any tags or access cards.
- Once temporary tags are officially rendered inactive. Lot managers will be notified and parkers displaying temporary tags, or not displaying permanent parking materials, may be subject to a ticket.
- If you want parking, you will need to apply for parking in [OPRA](#).
- Infrastructure will look to support ministries keeping some of these temporary parking stalls on a case-by-case basis.

8. Will I get a refund to the amount of parking Taxable Benefit recorded while I was working remotely away from the office?

- The CRA's position is that a taxable benefit must be recorded as long as the parking space is available for the employee's use.
- Therefore refunds will not be issued.

9. If I canceled my parking when I started working from home, will I continue to be taxed?

- By canceling your parking in OPRA, you effectively removed your taxable benefit from your payroll deductions.
- You no longer have access to a GOA employer provided parking stall.
- When you return to the office full time, you will need to reapply for parking in [OPRA](#).

10. Will the Fair Market Value assessed of the lot change due to pandemic pricing conditions?

- No, not at this time. When/if the market changes, it will be reflected in the next annual assessment.

11. Will I continue to incur the full taxable benefit amount for parking if I am only planning to attend the office on a part time basis?

- There is a (full) benefit for an employee who has parking available for their use regardless of how often it is being used it is considered a full benefit under CRA guidelines.
- If you are concerned how much benefit deductions you are incurring while only parking part-time, you may want to look at private options available outside of the GOA for parking a few days a week.