



# Free menstrual products to be available starting December at federally regulated workplaces



Government promised in 2021 election to make free tampons and pads available

*The Canadian Press*

The Liberals promised in their 2021 election campaign to make free tampons and pads available in federally regulated workplaces and set up a fund to make menstrual products available to vulnerable people.

Federally regulated workplaces are expected to begin offering free menstrual products to workers starting in mid-December.

Labour Minister Seamus O'Regan has announced changes to the Canada Labour Code that would ensure access to such products beginning Dec. 15.

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The changes announced Wednesday would apply to workplaces that employ about 1.3 million people, approximately 35 per cent of which, the government estimates, require menstrual products on a regular basis.

The 2022 federal budget allocated \$25 million to establish a national pilot for the menstrual equity fund, which aims to help make menstrual products available to people who may not be able to afford them.



Increased awareness of "period poverty" – a term used to describe financial barriers to accessing menstrual products – has led various jurisdictions to make menstrual products more widely available.

Scotland passed a law last year to make menstrual products free for anyone who needs them.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/menstrual-products-workplace-1.6838890>