

UNION FACT SHEET 1 - TAS

Workers Compensation



Step by step guide to Worker's Compensation Claim Process

Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988
(including changes to be introduced 1st July 2010)

1. As soon as practicable after suffering an injury, the worker must notify their employer of the injury, either verbally or in writing. This notice must be given before the worker voluntarily leaves the employment in which the injury occurred.
2. The injured worker should get a Workers Compensation Medical Certificate from their treating medical practitioner and is required to notify their employer as soon as practicable of the name of the person that the worker has chosen to be his or her primary treating medical practitioner.
3. The injured worker should fill in a Workers' Claim for Compensation form and attach their Workers Compensation Medical Certificate. The worker must make a claim for compensation within six months of the date of the injury or in the case of a gradual onset disease, within six months of the day the worker first becomes incapacitated by the disease or the day a medical practitioner certifies that the worker was first incapacitated.
4. Once a claim has been lodged, the employer must commence making weekly payments. The injured worker should submit requests for payment of medical and other expenses related to their claim to the employer with supporting documents. A worker may seek the payment of medical expenses up to a total of \$5000 before liability for the injury has been accepted.
5. Once a medical certificate runs out, the worker has 14 days to get a new one, showing the next period of incapacity for which benefits are payable.
6. The Injury Management Coordinator must ensure that a Return to Work Plan is prepared where a worker is likely to be incapacitated for more than 5 working days but less than 28 calendar days.
7. To keep receiving weekly payments, a worker is obliged to participate in a rehabilitation program and undertake suitable alternative duties proposed by the employer. The worker has a right to be involved in the management of their injury and should be consulted about when and how they return to work and the duties they are to perform. The treating doctor, the employer's return to work coordinator and the vocational rehabilitation provider may also be involved.
8. New weekly Payments:
 - 100% of normal weekly earnings for the first 26 weeks
 - 90% of normal weekly earnings after 26 to 78 weeks
 - 80% of normal weekly earnings after 78 weeks.

.For more information and assistance call WorkCover Tasmania on 1300 366 322

Contact us on 1800 060 556 Free call

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