



APPRENTICES WAGE LOSS BENEFITS

If you are an apprentice and you are injured while attending on the job training or in-school technical training, the wage loss benefits you receive as a result of your injury may be adjusted because of your apprentice status.

What do I do if I experience a work related injury?

Seek medical attention and report your injury to your employer and to the WCB as soon as you can. When you report your injury to the WCB, you need to tell us that you were training or working as an apprentice at the time the injury occurred.

What amount of wage loss benefits will I be entitled to?

Workers compensation wage loss benefits are usually paid based on 90% of your net loss of earning capacity, unless your earnings before the accident are less than or equal to the minimum annual earnings established by the WCB in effect on your injury date. In this case, we would pay you based on 100% of your net earnings. See the WCB's "Calculation of Wage Loss Benefits" Fact Sheet for more information.

Why would my wage loss benefits be adjusted if I am an apprentice?

Generally, the WCB will adjust your earnings for the calculation of wage loss benefits if you are still receiving wage loss benefits one year after your injury.

We do this because the income of an apprentice usually increases by specific amounts as they work towards their journey person qualification.

If the WCB finds that the wages earned at the time of injury do not fairly represent your lost earning capacity, we will periodically increase your benefits based on what your earnings would have been if you had continued your apprenticeship training.

How are my benefits adjusted?

1. Initially, your average earnings will be calculated using the established wage and hours being worked for the stage of the apprenticeship you were in at the time of the injury.
2. On the first day of the month following the first anniversary of your injury, your average earnings will be increased to reflect the wage you would have been earning if you had not been injured.



3. Your average earnings will continue to be adjusted periodically in accordance with the wage and hours of work established with the training employer (the employer named in your Apprenticeship Agreement, if applicable) for the year or portion of the apprenticeship you would be in had you not been injured.
4. Once your average earnings have reached the prevailing wage of a starting journeyman, adjustments will then be made annually in accordance with the indexing provisions of *The Workers Compensation Act*.

Questions?

If you are uncertain about whether or not you are considered an apprentice, or if you would like to know whether your apprentice status affects your wage loss benefits, please contact your adjudicator or case manager to discuss your case.

This publication is provided for general information. It is not intended to be legal advice, and should not be relied on as such. For more specific information, see *The Workers Compensation Act and Regulations and WCB Policies*. These documents are available on the WCB website at wcb.mb.ca.