

PA Workers' Compensation FAQs

Q. What is workers' compensation?

- No fault system which provides benefits for injured workers
- You don't have to show that the injury was somebody's fault, just that the injury happened at work

Q. What benefits am I entitled to under Pennsylvania workers' compensation law?

- Benefits available for acute injuries and repetitive use injuries
- Primary benefits are wage loss and medical
- Benefits also paid for loss of a body part (specific loss claim) and disfiguring scars

Q. What should I do if I get injured at work?

- Promptly report injury to supervisor or other management personnel
- Notification to your employer must be within 120 days of injury.
- Describe when injury occurred, how it happened, and what body parts were injured
- Seek medical treatment for your injuries

Q. What is the time limitation to file for workers' compensation benefits?

- Claim must be filed within three years of date of injury
- Date of injury for repetitive use claims is last day of work
- Three-year period in specific loss claims starts when doctor advises use of body part is permanently lost

Q. Who do I treat with?

- For first 90 days, you must treat with employer's designated list of physicians if proper notice was provided to you at the time of hire and following injury
- May treat with doctors of your choice following expiration of 90 days

Q. How long do I have to be disabled to receive wage loss benefits?

- No wage loss benefits if disabled for 7 days or less
- 7-day waiting period if disabled between 7 and 14 days
- No waiting period if disability exceeds 14 days

Q. How much will I get paid while out of work?

- Between 2/3 and 90% of the weekly wages you earned for employer if you're unable to work
- 2/3 of the difference between your weekly wages and reduced wages if you're able to perform part-time or light-duty work
- All benefits are non-taxable