

Weekly Compensation for Work Related Injuries

What is Weekly Compensation?

Weekly compensation is an entitlement that covers loss of earnings due to incapacity following a covered injury.

Who is Entitled to Weekly Compensation?

To be entitled to receive weekly compensation, you must:

1. Hold employment at your date of first or subsequent incapacity (DOFI/DOSI)
2. Have been an earner immediately before your incapacity
3. Be incapacitated (either partially or fully) for your employment that was held immediately prior to your incapacity

How is Weekly Compensation Calculated?

For work related injuries, you are covered from day one of your covered injury as long as you supply medical certificates. There are three different periods of entitlement:

1. First week – the first seven calendar days (week one) following your approved incapacity. This is calculated as an average of your taxable earnings in the seven days immediately prior to your incapacity
2. Short term – the following four weeks (weeks two to five) after first week. This is calculated as an average of your taxable earnings in the four weeks immediately prior to your incapacity
3. Long term – from week six onwards. This is calculated as an average of your taxable earnings in the 52 weeks immediately prior to your incapacity

Fully Unfit vs Fit For Select Work

Whilst **fully unfit**, you are entitled to be paid at 80% based on the earnings assessed for first week, short term and long term periods. Some employers choose to top up to 100% (however if your claim is ever returned to ACC for any reason, you will only be paid at 80%). You can also choose to top up to 100% out of your sick or annual leave if you have any.

Whilst **fit for select work** (either on reduced hours or restricted duties), you will be paid for the hours you work and then topped up to your 100% rate, with a maximum top up of 80%.

Does Your Entitlement Rate Ever Increase?

On the 1st July each year, ACC release the new indexation rates and advise the percentage increase that is to apply to those claims that meet the criteria for the increase. To be eligible for an indexation increase you must:

1. Have been receiving weekly compensation with no gaps for the 26 weeks prior to 1st July or
2. Have been receiving weekly compensation for a total of 26 weeks in the 12 months prior to 1st July

Who Pays Weekly Compensation and When Does it Start?

Weekly compensation is paid via your normal payroll on your normal payday. Your payments will begin on your first payday following acceptance of your claim.