



Benefits

Workers Comp Fact Sheet 7

Advising workers of their rights

While a worker is off work they are paid a weekly benefit. This benefit is calculated at the applicable award or enterprise agreement rate.

If a worker is back at work on suitable duties they are entitled to make up pay from the insurer. The make up pay is calculated on the workers normal weekly rate, which includes overtime and penalty rates. **After six months the weekly rate drops.**

Casuals

If a casual employee is injured, they are entitled to be paid:

- Their average weekly earnings – this is averaged out over the period of their employment
- This is paid until the person is fit to return to work
- If a casual employee works more than one job they are entitled to be paid for all of those jobs – again the wages of all these jobs are added together and averaged to get a weekly rate.

Annual leave and entitlements

A worker is entitled to receive, in addition to their Workers Compensation benefits:

- **Annual leave**
- **Public holidays** (this can be added to your annual leave)
- Long service leave pro rata, whilst employed and on benefits
- They cannot be paid **sick leave** and compensation at the same time.

Utilising sick pay and annual leave

A worker can use their holiday and sick leave entitlement whilst they are waiting for benefits to be paid or to top up their compensation if the rate drops. Refer to your award or enterprise agreement.

Medical and other related benefits

- An injured worker is entitled to claim the cost of **reasonably necessary** treatment that results from the injury such as medication and treatment including physio and surgery
- Unions have also been successful in getting the government to include payments for seriously injured workers to get access to **domestic care** when it is reasonably necessary and directly results from the injury. It can include work such as mowing lawns, house cleaning and child minding
- Workers can claim reasonable travel expenses to and from treatment, i.e. petrol, train and bus fares
- Where an accident results in damage to glasses or hearing aids etc., these aids can be repaired or replaced without the need for an injury to have occurred.

For more information please contact your union. This Literature is recommended as a guide only and is not a substitute for professional or legal advice. If you need clarification or further advice please consult your Union for further information or Contact the Workers Health Centre. The [Workers Health Centre](#) is a non-profit organisation that has provided workers with quality health and safety services since 1976

If you are an Injured Worker and in need of assistance and support when injured, please contact us

The Injured Workers Support Network

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Website:

The Injured Workers Support Network is a Not for Profit Organisation.

Who can participate?

- **All injured workers**
- **Any immediate family or support persons of injured workers.**

If interested in further information concerning meetings, membership or other forms of support for the Injured Workers Support Network, please contact us.