

Wage Loss Compensation

Wage loss compensation is a benefit that BWC may pay to an injured worker who:

- Suffers a reduction in earnings;
- Has restrictions related to the allowed conditions in the claim, which cause the loss of earnings.

You may qualify for working wage loss compensation if you have found work other than your former position, and you now receive less pay than you did at the time of your injury. As an injured worker, you may qualify for non-working wage loss compensation if you cannot find employment as a result of a work-related injury.

Wage loss compensation, however, is only available for injuries occurring after Aug. 22, 1986. In addition, wage loss compensation is intended as temporary support to help replace some of the lost wages after a work-related injury. Therefore, BWC limits wage loss compensation.

Applying for wage loss

To apply for wage loss compensation, complete the front of the *Application for Wage Loss Compensation* (C-140). Then, ask your doctor to complete the medical report on the back of the form and return it to BWC.

If your employer is self-insured, return your completed application to your employer. Self-insuring employers have been granted the privilege to administer workers' compensation insurance. If you are not sure if your employer is self-insured, ask your employer or your BWC claims service specialist.

The C-140 is available at any BWC customer service office. You may also obtain the C-140 by calling **1-800-OHIOBWC** or by logging on to BWC's Web site, **ohiobwc.com**.

Supplemental medical reports

If you have temporary medical restrictions, your health-care provider must submit supplemental medical reports regarding your progress once every 90-day period after your initial application. If your medical restrictions are permanent, BWC requires a supplemental medical report once every 180-day period.

Wage loss statements

If you are seeking or receiving non-working wage loss payments, you must include a description of your job-search efforts with your wage loss application. BWC may require you to provide this information in working wage loss claims.

Submit wage loss statements on the *Wage Loss Statement for Job Search* (C-141). The C-141 is available at **ohiobwc.com**. Complete this statement for every week you seek wage loss compensation.

Receiving wage loss compensation

To receive wage loss compensation, you must:

- Seek suitable employment with your employer of record during the first period that wage loss compensation is requested;
- Register with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services;
- Submit a medical report identifying your restrictions.

When you apply for wage loss compensation, BWC will evaluate evidence, such as:

- Your skills, prior employment history and educational background;
- The number and quality of job contacts made, and the amount of time spent seeking employment;
- Refusal to accept assistance in seeking employment from BWC, any other free public or private employment agency, or the employer of record;
- Labor market conditions;
- Your physical capabilities;
- Your economic status as it impacts your ability to seek employment;
- Attendance at a Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation program.

Computing wage loss

If your injury occurred before May 15, 1997, BWC will calculate wage loss based on the greater of your average weekly wage or full weekly wage at the time of injury or the date of disability due to an occupational disease.

If your injury occurred on or after May 15, 1997, BWC will calculate wage loss based on your average weekly wage at the time of your injury or date of disability and your present earnings.

If you have questions about wage loss compensation, log on to **ohiobwc.com**, or call **1-800-OHIOBWC**.