

Family Support – Seriously Injured Workers

When a worker is seriously injured as a result of a workplace injury, family members can get support from the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB), as outlined in [The Workers' Compensation Act, 2013](#).

A seriously injured worker is someone who sustains a life-threatening injury, or an injury that results in a permanent loss of function or significant disfigurement. These types of injuries can be both physical and/or psychological in nature.

For seriously injured workers, an **immediate family member** can include a spouse, parent, legal guardian, grandparent, child, grandchild, or sibling.

Family support

Counselling

If a family needs help coping with the worker's injury, the WCB will pay for counselling and any costs to travel if outside of the family's home community.

Travel

Travel support can be given to family members to reduce the short-term stress and hardship caused because of the need to attend treatment. Travel support rates are paid based upon the WCB's travel rates policy ([PRO 53/2016](#)) and include:

- Actual travel expenses to and from the treatment facility using the most practical means of travel from the family members' home
- Lodging
- Meals

Child care

If child care costs are higher than they were before the worker's injury, the WCB will pay costs for:

- Traveling to see the worker in the hospital
- Being at the hospital to be with the injured worker

Additional support

The WCB may also pay for things such as:

- Family member's earnings loss
- Laundry
- Parking

If you are a spouse of a worker who died as a result of a work injury you may qualify for additional benefits, please refer to our fact sheet [Fatalities](#).

For additional information or to find out if you qualify for benefits, contact your WCB case manager or call 1.800.667.7590.