

Fatally & Seriously Injured Workers Family Support

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

Seriously injured means a life-threatening injury or an injury that results in a permanent loss of function or significant disfigurement. Serious injury may include but is not limited to:

- Quadriplegia.
- Paraplegia.
- Upper and/or lower limb amputation.
- Severe head injury.
- Severe burns.
- Blindness.

Family member is a spouse, parent, legal-guardian, grandparent, child, grandchild or sibling as stated in Section 21 of The Workers' Compensation Act, 2013.

Family support

Counselling

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

Travel

Travel support can be given to family members for up to seven days 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:

- Travel expenses to and from the hospital from family members home or lodging.
- Lodging.
- Meals.
- Long distance phone calls.



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 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 [Support and Benefits for Families When a Fatality Happens](#).

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