

Payments & leave while on workers compensation

Workers compensation is a form of insurance payment paid to employees if they are injured at work or become sick due to their work.

Payment of workers compensation

The amount of money paid to employees on workers compensation will depend on the state or territory.

The amount paid to an employee is an insurance payment and not a wage. The employee is paid:

- directly by the insurer
- from the insurer through the employer or
- by the workers compensation regulator.

What if my employer does not pay the workers compensation?

Sometimes the insurer accepts the workers compensation claim and the employer doesn't pass on the insurance money to the employee.

An employee can take the following steps to resolve this issue:

- Contact the employer regarding the payment
- Contact the insurance company regarding the matter
- Contact the [workers compensation regulator \(www.fairwork.gov.au/Leave/Workers-compensation/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/Leave/Workers-compensation/default) in their state or territory.

Superannuation and workers compensation

Some awards and registered agreements may give employees an entitlement to superannuation while they're away from work on workers compensation. For more information and to check your award go to [Tax & superannuation \(www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/tax-and-superannuation\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/tax-and-superannuation).

Accident pay

Some awards have entitlements to accident pay for employees on workers compensation. Accident pay is the difference between what an employee would normally get paid and the amount they get paid from workers compensation. It's paid by the employer.

To check whether your award has accident pay, select from the list below:

Leave and workers compensation

Employees on workers compensation can take unpaid parental leave if they're eligible. Go to [Maternity and parental leave \(www.fairwork.gov.au/leave/maternity-and-parental-leave/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/leave/maternity-and-parental-leave/default) to find out who is eligible for parental leave.

If it's allowed under the state or territory workers compensation legislation, employees can take or accrue:

- annual leave
- personal leave
- long service leave.

Visit our Library to learn more about [Annual leave and sick leave on workers compensation \(www.fairwork.gov.au/library/k600454_annual-leave-sick-leave-during-workers-compensation\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/library/k600454_annual-leave-sick-leave-during-workers-compensation).

You can also contact the relevant [workers compensation regulator \(www.fairwork.gov.au/Leave/Workers-compensation/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/Leave/Workers-compensation/default) in your state or territory for information about long service leave on workers compensation.

Employees don't get public holidays while on workers compensation.

Think a mistake might have been made?

Mistakes can happen. The best way to fix them usually starts with talking.

Check out our [Fixing a workplace problem \(www.fairwork.gov.au/workplace-problems/fixing-a-workplace-problem/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/workplace-problems/fixing-a-workplace-problem/default) section for practical advice on:

- figuring out if a mistake has been made
- talking to your employer or employee about fixing it
- getting help from us if you can't resolve it.

What to do next

- Learn how to have [difficult conversations \(www.fairwork.gov.au/How-we-will-help/How-we-help-you/Help-resolving-workplace-issues/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/How-we-will-help/How-we-help-you/Help-resolving-workplace-issues/default) with your employer or employee

Help for small business

- Find tools, resources and information you might need on our [Small business page \(www.fairwork.gov.au/Find-help-for/Small-business/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/Find-help-for/Small-business/default) .

You might also be interested in:

- [Long periods of sick leave \(www.fairwork.gov.au/leave/sick-and-carers-leave/long-periods-of-sick-leave\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/leave/sick-and-carers-leave/long-periods-of-sick-leave)
- [Protections at work \(www.fairwork.gov.au/employee-entitlements/protections-at-work/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/employee-entitlements/protections-at-work/default) .

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Contact us

Fair Work Online: www.fairwork.gov.au

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

Need language help?

Contact the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50

Hearing & speech assistance

Call through the National Relay Service (NRS):

For TTY: 13 36 77. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

Speak & Listen: 1300 555 727. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

The Fair Work Ombudsman is committed to providing advice that you can rely on. The information contained on this website is general in nature. If you are unsure about how it applies to your situation you can call our Infoline on 13 13 94 or speak with a union, industry association or workplace relations professional. Visitors are warned that this site may inadvertently contain names or pictures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have recently died.