

Worker's Compensation Frequently Asked Questions

- Q) What should I do if I am injured on the job?
- A) In the event that you are injured on the job, you should immediately notify your supervisor of your injury. If your injury is an emergency you should proceed to the nearest medical facility, otherwise your supervisor will assist you in locating an approved medical provider.
- Q) What is Worker's Compensation?
- A) Worker's Compensation is a state-mandated insurance program that provides compensation (medical, vocational, lost wages) to employees who suffer job-related injuries. This insurance program is paid for by the employer.
- Q) Do I have to fill out any paperwork?
- A) Yes. You must complete the DWC-1 form, which is the employee's notice to the employer that they have suffered a work-related injury. Also, your supervisor will complete the Form 5020 and may ask you to sign it to verify that the report is correct to the best of both of your knowledge. In addition, you may be requested to complete additional paperwork by the insurance carrier or third-party administrator.
- Q) Can I see my own doctor for work-related injuries?
- A) Yes and No. If you have pre-designated your doctor prior to the injury then you may treat with your doctor for that work-related injury. If you have not pre-designated your doctor, then the employer may control the choice of doctor for the first 30 days of treatment. At the end of the 30 days, you may request to treat with your own doctor.
- Q) What if the doctor says that I can't return to work?
- A) If your doctor says that you can't return to work or that you have limitations on the type of work that you can perform, provide your supervisor with the doctor's written "work status" form. This form will provide your employer with the information needed to modify your duties or to provide you with a leave of absence.
- Q) What if I am injured on the job, but do not want to see a doctor?
- A) You have the right to refuse medical treatment for a work-related injury, but you must still immediately notify your supervisor of your injury and complete the necessary paperwork. Your employer may still want you to see a doctor in the event that your injury is a serious injury (head trauma, spinal injury, etc.).
- Q) Do I have to pay for my medical bills that are due to my work-related injury?
- A) In the event that your worker's compensation claim is found to be compensable, all medical bills should be paid by your employer's insurance carrier. If you receive medical bills, you should contact the Risk Management Office at x 310 immediately.