



Injured at work?

What should you do if you've been injured at work or suffered an injury while employed?

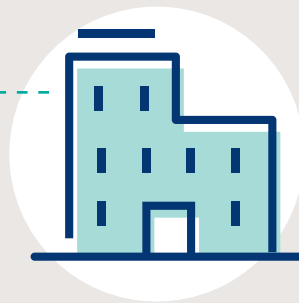
Always make sure you seek medical assistance first.

Then when you're able to, you should complete and lodge a WorkCover claim form. At Zaparas Lawyers, we understand that this can be quite a daunting process, so we are happy to assist you with completing and lodging the claim form. Feel free to contact us to arrange your obligation free appointment.

Who can lodge a WorkCover claim?



Any worker based in Queensland



Any worker whose employer's principal place of business is in Queensland

What is covered?

While most injuries that occur at work (or arise in the course of work) can be covered, it is important to note that injuries sustained in the following circumstances might also be covered:

- Travelling to and from work and for work purposes
- Conferences, training and work functions
- Authorised coffee or lunch breaks

If you are in any doubt about whether you are covered, please contact us to obtain advice.

You can lodge a WorkCover claim if you are a:

Full-Time
Employee

Part-Time
Employee

Casual
Employee

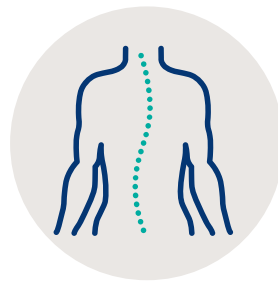
Specific Self-
Employed Worker

If you are unsure if you fall into one of these categories, please contact us to obtain further advice.

What kind of injuries might be claimed?



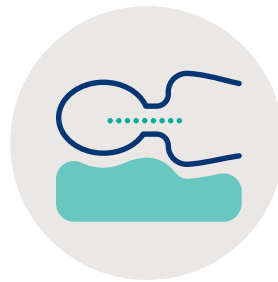
Fractures



Back Injuries



Psychological
Injuries



Neck and
Head Injuries



Burns



Repetitive Strain
Injuries

Important things to consider

What to do if you have been injured at work or in a work-related situation

See your doctor and get a worker's compensation medical certificate. Tell your employer about your injury and provide them with a copy of the medical certificate. Lodge your claim with Workcover Queensland or your employer (if they are self-insured).



Contesting a WorkCover decision

If you are unhappy with Workcover's decision on a claim you can seek a review. Reviews of decisions made by Workcover or your employers insurance company are conducted by the Office of Industrial relations on behalf of the Workers Compensation Regulator.

Some decisions that can be reviewed include the decision to accept or reject a claim, increase or decrease compensation payment amounts or end compensation payments.

A review must be lodged with the office of Industrial relations within 3 months of receiving Workcover's written reasons for their decision. One of our solicitors can help you lodge this review.

Should you accept the lump sum offer from Workcover?

You should speak to Zaparas Lawyers before accepting any offer from Workcover, or before signing any documentation from your employer or your employer's insurance company (including Workcover's notice of assessment). The lump sum compensation offered by Workcover might not adequately compensate you for the long-term consequences of your injury and we can therefore advise you on your options.



Making a Common Law claim

Generally, you cannot commence a Common Law claim until you have received a notice of assessment for your injury. There is however a strict 3 years time limit to claim damages from the date of the injury or when you first knew of the injury.

Contact us immediately if the 3 year time limit is fast approaching or passed, because preparing for these cases is very time consuming. We can also assist you in obtaining a notice of assessment for your injury.

If your claim is accepted, what could you be entitled to?

In Queensland, there are two separate stages to a worker's compensation claim: the statutory claim phase and the common law claim for damages.

Statutory Claims

For Statutory Claims, compensation is paid regardless of who was at fault for causing the injury.

Payments and benefits (known as statutory compensation) received for these claims may include:

- Weekly payments as income replacement
- Lump sums to compensate for permanent impairment

Hospital and medical expenses

Weekly compensation payments will stop as soon as one of the following happens:

- You return to work and are no longer injured
- You receive a lump sum offer
- You have been receiving weekly payments for 5 years
- Your total weekly compensation reaches the maximum amount payable

Common Law Claims

Common Law claims involve the injured worker suing their employer for negligence.

Generally, a Common Law claim can only proceed after a statutory claim has been lodged and then accepted by Workcover. A Common Law claim may only proceed when Workcover issues a notice of assessment of injury.

You may be offered a lump sum payment at the conclusion of the statutory claim. If you accept this offer, it may affect your right to pursue a Common Law claim.

It is vital you consult a lawyer before you accept any offer.

What Can You Claim in a Common Law Worker's Compensation Claim?

You may be entitled to claim for:

- Medical and out-of-pocket expenses
- Loss of income
- Pain and suffering

If we can help you in any way, feel free to contact your local Queensland team on **07 5313 3149** or **1800 927 272**.

 coomera@zapaslaw.com.au

 Shop J1, Coomera Square, 2 City Centre Drive,
Upper Coomera QLD 4209

zapaslaw.com.au

Backed by our Victorian network of offices

Oakleigh | Epping | Cranbourne | Werribee | Preston | St Albans



ZAPARAS
LAWYERS