

Benefits if a Return to Work is Interrupted

What happens to your WCB benefits if your return to work (RTW) is interrupted because of a layoff, strike, lockout, termination, state of emergency, or because of weather? The Worker's Compensation Board (WCB) will continue to be responsible for your healthcare needs as a result of your work injury. The following outlines earnings-loss benefits you may be entitled to.

Earnings-Loss Benefits

WCB policy ([POL 02/2018](#)) outlines how benefits are determined if a worker's RTW is interrupted. WCB may request a copy of your Record of Employment to determine what your employer recorded as the reason for the interruption of your employment.

1. You will receive full benefits if a layoff interrupts your RTW and one of the following conditions are met:
 - a. Your work injury restricts your ability to perform work outside of the limited requirements of the RTW, or
 - b. Your restrictions make you unable to compete for other employment on the same basis as other workers.
2. If your RTW is interrupted by a strike, lockout, termination, state of emergency or weather:
 - a. You will continue to receive partial benefits if your RTW has not stopped all earnings loss, or
 - b. If you have returned to pre-injury wages, you will not receive earnings-loss benefits.
3. If you receive long-term earnings-loss benefits and a layoff, strike, lockout, termination, state of emergency or weather interrupts your employment, you will continue to get long-term earnings-loss benefits. If you are employed in a new occupation for less than one year, you may also qualify for re-employment assistance.

Reducing Earnings Loss

The WCB will determine if you need to seek other work to reduce earnings loss if a layoff, strike, lockout or state of emergency is prolonged and there is no upcoming recall date.

Termination of Benefits

Your earnings-loss benefits will end once you are medically fit for pre-injury duties or other suitable productive employment.

For further information, contact the Operations Division:

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