



# BASIC INFORMATION ON WORKER'S COMPENSATION

Worker's Compensation is often times an arduous and confusing process. Workers injured on the job may be entitled to benefits under both the Worker's Compensation Law as well as PEF contractual benefits.

## 1. Why File for Worker's Compensation

- ✓ It does not cost you anything.
- ✓ Employee health plans are going broke unfairly paying costs they aren't supposed to, like those for work-related injuries.
- ✓ You don't have to stop working to receive full WC medical benefits.
- ✓ Your WC payments and medical care may continue even if you get a new job, retire, or leave the state.
- ✓ You are entitled to WC no matter whose fault it was.
- ✓ Sick leave used due to injury may be "reimbursed" at a prorated amount.
- ✓ Your injury may occur again.
- ✓ You may be eligible for additional monies which are only available through WC.

## 2. Basic Benefits of Worker's Compensation

- ✓ Medical expenses (tests, hospitals, medicines, equipment, etc.)
- ✓ Transportation costs to doctor visits
- ✓ Temporary benefits if you lose wages
- ✓ Additional money if you have permanent damage to a limb
- ✓ Death benefits (funeral expenses; weekly payments for dependent spouse and children)

### 3. Contractual Rights

Contract language pertaining to Worker's Compensation is contained in Article 13 of the PS&T collective bargaining agreement. The contract language also clarifies procedures and rules for time and attendance purposes. Included under Article 13 are:

- ✓ Waiting periods
- ✓ Use of leave accruals
- ✓ Supplemental payments
- ✓ Medical Evaluation Program
- ✓ Mandatory Alternate Duty assignments
- ✓ Restoration of accruals
- ✓ Wage replacement
- ✓ Accidental Death Benefit (Article 11)

### 4. Additional Information

For more information on Worker's Compensation and your contractual rights, contact your field representative. You may also contact PEF Health and Safety at 518-785-1900 ext. 254, or 1-800-342-4306, ext. 254.

---

*Upon request, PEF Occupational Safety & Health will provide other factsheets, standards, regulations, and other resources. Contact us at [healthandsafety@pef.org](mailto:healthandsafety@pef.org) or 518-785-1900, ext. 254 or 1-800-342-4306, ext. 254.*

**Funded in part by a grant from the NYS Department of Labor Hazard Abatement Board**

**Produced by the New York State Public Employees Federation**

**Wayne Spence  
President**

**Joseph Donahue  
Secretary-Treasurer**