

Initial Screening by WCD

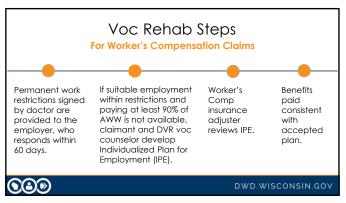
- Automatically screen claims with greater than 13 weeks
 of Temporary Total Disability (TTD) paid
- Voluntary employment status questionnaire is sent out to determine potential need for vocational rehabilitation

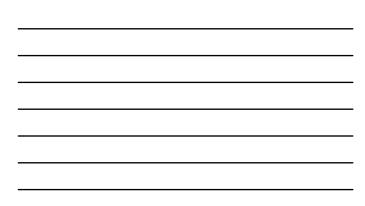
 $_{\odot}$ Has end of healing (EOH) been reached? $_{\odot}$ Is there a wage loss?

- Are there permanent restrictions or permanent disability?
- Refer injured workers who potentially qualify for voc rehab to DVR

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Benefits of Retraining for WC Claims

- Tuition, school fees, books
 - Laptop or other equipment required for program may be covered if determined necessary by IPE
- DVR requires their consumers who participate in retraining to apply for federal student aid (FAFSA)
 - $_{\odot}\,\text{Grants}$ reduce cost of tuition paid by insurance carrier

 $_{\odot}\,\text{Scholarships}$ are awarded to injured worker

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Benefits of Retraining for WC Claims

Mileage and meals are paid at state employee rate:

- Travel for school \$0.51 per mile
- Breakfast: \$9
- Lunch: \$11
- Dinner: \$21

PocketTravelGuide_2_2022.pdf (wi.gov)

[https://dpm.wi.gov/Documents/BCER/Compensation/PocketTravelG uide 2 2022.pdf]

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Benefits of Retraining for WC Claims

Maintenance = TTD rate

- Not to exceed 80 weeks, unless WCD determines that additional school is necessary to replace average weekly wage (AWW)
- Permanent Partial Disability (PPD) continues to accrue during breaks from school

Case law: Massachusetts Bonding Insurance Co. v. Industrial Commission. 275 Wis. 505 (1957)



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Additional Info Injured worker can work up to 24 hours per week while participating in retraining without reducing the maintenance benefit. Employee can still be eligible for voc rehab benefit, even if declared Permanent Total Disability (PTD). If injured worker is residing outside of Wisconsin, they can still participate in vocational retraining by working with a private vocational counselor. Private vocational counselors should contact WCD to be certified for Wisconsin worker's compensation claims. DWD.WISCONSIN.GOV



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