



WORKERS COMPENSATION  
**TOOLKIT**

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ILLINOIS

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# WORKERS COMPENSATION



## POLICYHOLDER CLAIMS TOOLKIT

Going *Beyond the expected*<sup>®</sup> to rehab, rebuild, and restore lives.

### INJURY REPORTING

All injuries should be reported to Pekin Insurance by calling 800-322-0160.

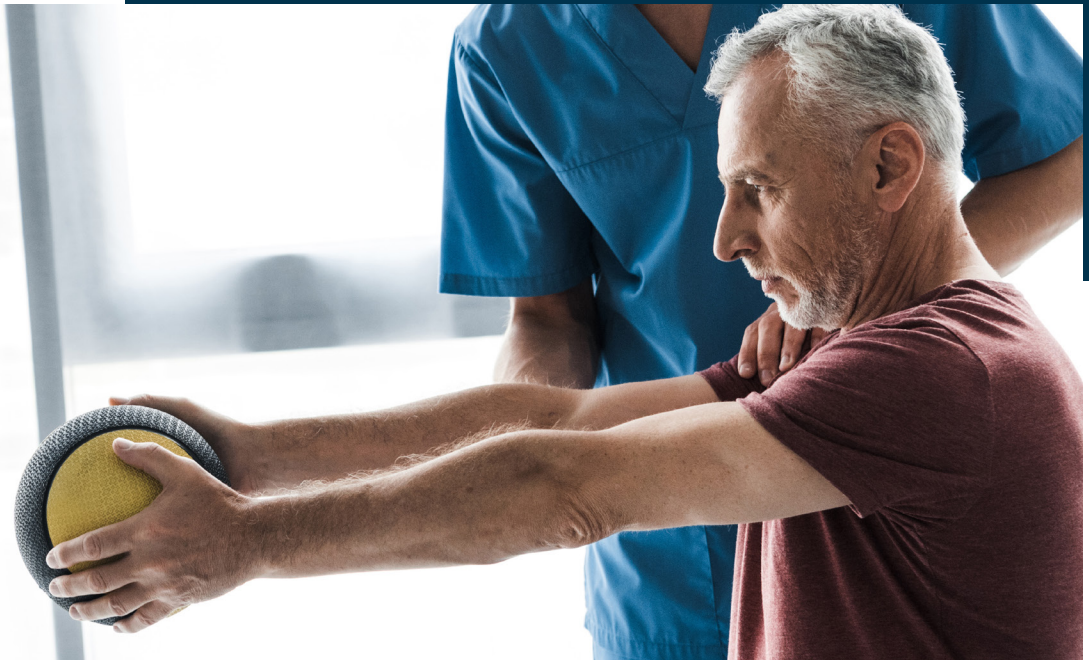
If the injury is non-emergent, please have the injured employee and supervisor call Pekin Insurance's Nurse On Call at 833-746-8308.

#### When calling, please try to have the following confidential information:

- Company name and location of the accident
- Injured employee's name, department, supervisor, and work phone number
- Employee's home phone number
- Employee's social security number
- Employee's date of birth
- Time and date when injury occurred
- Description of the accident
  
- The registered nurse will assess the injury and recommend a treatment plan that could include self-care, telehealth, a clinical visit, or a trip to the emergency room. If the recommendation is self-care, please contact Pekin Insurance Nurse On Call before further treatment.
- A copy of the nurse triage report is given to the policyholder and to Pekin Insurance.
- If treatment is sought, a claim is generated and a Pekin Insurance claim specialist will contact the employer and the employee.
- Please review your claims checklist.

### CLAIMS REPORTING CHECKLIST

- Handle the medical needs of your injured employee.
- Report the claim either to Pekin Insurance directly or Pekin Insurance's Nurse On Call.
- Complete a thorough investigation including witness statements. Complete an internal supervisor's accident report, if available.
- Follow up on any corrective action for the cause of the accident. Preserve objects or machines for further inspection.
- Secure the name, address, and phone numbers of anyone you feel may be responsible for the incident.
- Send all necessary investigative information to Pekin Insurance.
- Complete the wage information and send to Pekin Insurance.
- Follow up with the injured employee.
- Send the work status slip or notify Pekin Insurance of a return to work.
- Notify Pekin Insurance if you are able to provide transitional duty, if needed.
- Send all medical bills and reports to Pekin Insurance.
- If the employee is losing time, review all options for return to work and discuss them with the employee and Pekin Insurance.



# WORKERS COMPENSATION

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## WHAT IS WORKERS COMPENSATION

Workers compensation is a benefit to provide medical and income protection if you are injured on the job. Pekin Insurance created this brochure to help you understand the program so that you can concentrate on recovering from your injury and returning to work.

## HOW TO USE WORKERS COMPENSATION

The workers compensation program began working for you when you reported your injury. Pekin files your claim for benefits on your employer's behalf. If you are eligible, you are responsible for staying in contact with your employer and workers compensation specialist and immediately reporting any changes in your medical condition or work status, along with providing medical documentation.

## THE BENEFITS

If there is coverage for your injury, you may be entitled to the following benefits.

### MEDICAL CARE

You will be provided with reasonable, necessary, quality medical care to treat your injury at no cost to you. Medical care may include prescription medication, durable medical equipment, diagnostic testing, and more. There are no deductibles or co-pays under the workers compensation program. Your workers compensation specialist can review these benefits in more detail.

### LOST TIME BENEFITS

You may be paid for any loss of wages if it is determined that you are unable to earn your full pay due to your injury. The amount you receive is based on your weekly income. This is based on your actual pay prior to your injury and is non-taxable. Workers compensation generally replaces a portion of your weekly income, but the weekly payment cannot exceed a maximum set by the state in which you work. Your state may have a waiting period that requires a certain amount of time to pass before you get paid. If you have questions, check with your workers compensation specialist.

# WORKERS COMPENSATION



## OUR GOAL: REHAB, REBUILD, AND RESTORE

The goal of Pekin Insurance is to manage the rehabilitation of your injury, work with your employer for a full return to the work, and assist in restoring your life. We strive to do this seamlessly so you can concentrate on your recovery. Pekin Insurance provides access to a nurse for any medical questions you have through your recovery.



## YOUR RIGHTS UNDER WORKERS COMPENSATION

- To receive all reasonable and necessary medical care related to your injury.
- To have all reasonable and necessary medical bills and loss of income paid promptly and without incident.
- To have questions on coverage for any benefit quickly resolved by your workers compensation specialist.
- To return to a job that matches your skills and physical abilities at the same rate of pay as before your injury.

## YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- To immediately report all your injuries to your employer.
- To help in the review of your injury or illness for possible coverage of benefits.
- To immediately report any change in your medical status or work status after each medical examination to your employer and/or specialist.
- To stay in contact with your employer and your workers compensation specialist.
- To carefully follow the medical program provided by your physician.
- To return to work in your regular job or a lighter temporary job as soon as you are medically able and released by your physician to do so.

## STATE OVERSIGHT

Workers compensation benefits are mandated by the state, and the state monitors all claims to ensure benefits are paid properly. Your Pekin Insurance claim coordinator reports all of the details of your claim to the state.



800-322-0160

WORKERS COMPENSATION DEPARTMENT



# RETURN TO WORK

**FACT: Injured workers off work longer than 6 months have only a 50% chance of returning to their jobs. If time loss exceeds 1 year, there is only a 25% chance they will return to their jobs.**

- Claims reported within 3 days have significantly lower average claims costs.
- 60% of workers off the job 14 days are already experiencing financial difficulty, which will most likely result in attorney involvement.

Although we are seeing a reduction in the overall reporting of lost time work injuries, we are seeing a gradual increase in medical costs and average cost per claim. The average workplace injury cost for 2016-2017 was \$40,000. Return to work programs play a major role in controlling claims costs, especially in reducing time loss payments.

## **REMEMBER:**

**Temporary total disability** is not paid if you can return your employee to work.

**Temporary total disability** is not paid if the employee refuses suitable and available work properly offered.

**Temporary partial disability** is a prorated payment if you can return your employee to work at less than the regular wage or hours. Be creative and offer transitional work that is productive and meaningful.

**Temporary partial disability** is a prorated payment if the employee returns to employment through a volunteer organization. Pekin Insurance can assist you with facilitating volunteer work that is meaningful and productive.

## **BENEFITS OF RETURN TO WORK FOR THE EMPLOYEE**

- Keeps the employee active and expedites recovery
- Speeds up the employee's return to productive activities
- Shifts the employee's focus from disabilities to abilities
- Increases the employee's self-esteem
- Provides an improved sense of job security
- Keeps employee connected with their co-workers and workplace

## **BENEFITS OF RETURN TO WORK FOR THE EMPLOYER**

- Provides a cost-effective pre-injury plan
- Encourages prompt reporting of incidents
- Helps avoid attorney involvement by showing prompt attention, regular follow-ups, and concern
- Reduces the severity of a claim by reducing the time off work
- Re-acclimates the employee to work
- Improves the working environment by providing meaningful employment
- Sustains productivity

## **COMPONENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL RETURN TO WORK PROGRAM**

- Documented Return to Work policy and formalized program
- Documented procedures for reporting claims and assessing medical treatment
- Early intervention claims management
- Commitment to providing Return to Work either onsite or offsite in ALL cases
- Leadership support of the Return to Work policy and program
- Effective communication of the policy and program to employees
- Review and evaluation of the program

Pekin Insurance has dedicated Loss Control Consultants and Workers Compensation Specialists to assist employers with tools and resources for successful Return to Work programs and offsite transitional work programs.



# 24/7 NURSE ON CALL PROGRAM

Nurse On Call offers injured employees access to an occupational nurse who is available 24/7. Without making an onsite visit, the nurse assesses non-life threatening injuries and determines if treatment requires self-care, an appointment with telehealth,\* a visit to an onsite clinic, or a trip to the emergency room.

With Nurse On Call and telehealth, your injured worker receives timely and professional care. Your program should also see a reduction in incurred costs, increased PPO and pharmacy network use, decreased litigation, and fewer visits to the emergency room.

Pekin Insurance partners with CorVel for the Nurse On Call program, which allows the nurse to use the preferred provider network, if needed. **Please call 911 and seek medical attention for serious or life-threatening injuries.**

## BENEFITS OF NURSE ON CALL

- Facilitates early intervention with a nurse specialized in occupational care.
- Assesses the injury immediately for the right level of care and cost.
- Reduces the number of claims and unnecessary physician visits.
- Reduces lag time with quick and efficient reporting.
- Helps employees return to work quicker.
- Allows access to the preferred provider network.
- Provides access to translators in multiple languages.
- Records all calls.

\*Telehealth provides injured employees with immediate access to a physician via iOS/Android phone, tablet, or a computer with video. This is ideal for sprains, strains, and other non-emergency, medical-only injuries. Telehealth saves time by eliminating the need to schedule and travel to appointments.

## HOW TO USE NURSE ON CALL

1. The employee contacts the supervisor to report an injury.
2. The supervisor and injured employee call Nurse On Call at 833-746-8308.
3. If the nurse does not refer the employee for medical treatment, the nurse gives self-care instructions and follows up with the employee the next day.
4. If the employee later determines medical treatment is needed, the employee can call the nurse for reassessment.
5. The nurse will identify a preferred provider.
6. The employee needs to inform the provider they are covered by Pekin Insurance.
7. A copy of the nurse triage report is forwarded to the policyholder and Pekin Insurance.
8. If treatment is sought, a claim is generated and a claim specialist will contact the employer and injured worker.



**833-746-8308**



## HOW TO REPORT A WORKERS COMPENSATION CLAIM

**Please call 911 for emergency care when there's a serious injury or fatality at your business.**

Report these incidents to Pekin Insurance at 888-735-4611.

For all other workplace injuries, follow the steps outlined below.

Report ALL injuries and incidents to the employee's supervisor.  
The employee and supervisor call the Nurse On Call hotline at 833-746-8308.

The nurse determines that the employee needs medical treatment and helps set up the appointment with a preferred provider.

The employee arrives at the clinic and informs the clinic that they are covered by Pekin Insurance.

The supervisor should complete an internal investigation to gather witness statements and details of the incident. All information should be sent to Pekin Insurance.

The nurse DOES NOT refer the employee to medical treatment and DOES make self-treatment recommendations.

The nurse may schedule a follow-up call for the next day to reassess the injury and refer for treatment, if necessary. If it's determined that medical treatment is required, the injured worker should call Nurse On Call, tell the nurse the injury has already been reported, then ask for a medical evaluation. The nurse completes the Workers Compensation forms.

A claims specialist will call the policyholder, the employee, and the provider within four business hours.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Chris Franklin,  
Workers Compensation Manager, 800-322-0160, Extension 2671.



# 833-746-8308



# CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

Our goal at Pekin Insurance is to provide seamless claim handling for both the injured employee and the employer. When accidents occur, it is our job to ensure the injury is eligible for workers compensation benefits, to facilitate the recovery process and return to work, to pay the necessary medical and disability benefits, and most importantly, to adequately explain and assist in the workers compensation process.

When a claim is submitted to Pekin Insurance for handling:

- A claim specialist will call the employer, the employee, and the provider within 4 business hours.
- The claim specialist will determine eligibility for workers compensation benefits, explain the workers compensation process and benefits, and determine direction with the injured worker.
- If necessary, the claim specialist will involve necessary resources to assist in the medical and disability management of the claim.
- The claim specialist will document the claim and follow up with the injured employee and the employer throughout the life of the claim until it is resolved.

## **COST CONTAINMENT MEASURES AND RESOURCES**

Pekin Insurance partners with CorVel for medical bill review, preferred provider network, diagnostics, durable medical equipment, and prescriptions. CorVel's bill review savings average up to 28% higher than the industry averages. CorVel combines robust rules-based technology, clinical expertise, expert review, a PPO network, and bill review for maximum savings.

- **Medical Bill Review** – Medical bills are reviewed, adjusted, and paid by CorVel directly. This allows for maximum savings and regulatory compliance.
- **Prescriptions** – Injured employees receive a prescription card for immediate use in a large network of pharmacists with no out-of-pocket expenses.
- **Ancillary Services** – CareIQ is CorVel's service provider for ancillary services including durable medical equipment, diagnostic services, translation, and transportation.

## **NURSE CARE ADVOCATE**

Pekin Insurance has a care advocate available as a resource to claim specialists and injured workers. Injured employees can be referred to the care advocate through their claim specialist.

## **REHABILITATION NURSES**

Claim specialists will also use field and telephonic nurses, when needed, to assist with the medical and disability management of a claim.







# SUPERVISOR INCIDENT REPORT



Injured worker's name:		Sex: ___Male ___Female
Social Security number:		Date of Birth:
Address:		Phone:
		Date of Hire:
Job Title & Department:		

Date of injury:	Time of injury:	Medical attention sought? YES NO
Name of facility or physician that provided treatment:		
Witness to the incident:		
Was or will a drug screen be completed? YES NO (please circle one)		

Last Day Worked:		Return to work date:	
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Scheduled work week at time of injury			
Hours:	Days per week:	Start time:	End time:

Injured worker's normal/usual schedule			
Hours:	Days per week:	Start time:	End time:

Injured worker's statement regarding the injury (list all circumstances and equipment involved)	
Body Parts affected:	
Type of injury:	

The answers I have provided to the above questions are true to the best of my knowledge.	
Injured worker's signature:	Date:
Supervisor signature:	Date:



Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of person completing form: \_\_\_\_\_

ACTIVITY	NEVER (0 hours)	OCCASIONALLY up to 3 hours per day	FREQUENTLY 3 - 6 hours per day	CONSTANTLY 6 - 8+ hours per day
Sitting				
Walking				
Standing				
Bending (neck)				
Bending (waist)				
Squatting				
Climbing (stairs/ladders)				
Kneeling				
Crawling				
Twisting (neck)				
Twisting (waist)				
Reaching (below shoulder level)				
Reaching (above shoulder level)				

**DOES THIS JOB REQUIRE LIFTING?** (please circle) yes no

How many times per day? \_\_\_\_\_

Lifting (check appropriate box)

- 0-25lb
- 26-60lb
- 61lb and above

**DOES THIS JOB REQUIRE CARRYING?** (please circle) yes no

How far? (estimate distance): \_\_\_\_\_

Carrying (check appropriate box)

- 0-25lb
- 26-60lb
- 61lb and above

How many times per day? \_\_\_\_\_

**DOES THIS JOB REQUIRE** (please check if applicable):

- Driving cars
- Driving trucks
- Operating forklifts
- Walking on uneven ground
- Exposure to excessive noise
- Exposure to dust, gas, fumes, or chemicals
- Working at heights
- Operation of foot controls or repetitive foot movement
- Use of special auditory equipment
- Working with bio-hazards such as blood borne pathogens, sewage, or hospital waste



# RETURN TO WORK



<b>Physician:</b> Please fill out this form and fax to:	
<b>Employee:</b> Completed form must be returned to your employer <b>following each examination.</b>	
<b>Employer:</b> When received, route this form to Pekin Insurance.	

Employer:		Claim Number:	
Date of Injury/Illness:		Date of Treatment:	
Diagnosis AND Treatment Plan:			

RETURN TO WORK: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ FULL DUTY: \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

**MODIFIED DUTY:** \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Check appropriate box below

	<b>Sedentary Work.</b> Lifting <b>10lbs maximum</b> and occasionally lifting and/or carrying such articles as docket, ledgers, and small tools. Although a sedentary job is defined as one that involves sitting, a certain amount of walking and standing is often necessary in carrying out job duties. Jobs are sedentary if walking and standing are required only occasionally and other sedentary criteria are met.
	<b>Light Work.</b> Lifting <b>20lbs maximum</b> with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 10lbs. Even though the weight lifted may be only a negligible amount, a job is in this category when it requires walking or standing to a significant degree or when it involves sitting most of the time with a degree of pushing and pulling of arm or leg controls.
	<b>Light Medium Work.</b> Lifting <b>30lbs maximum</b> with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 20 lbs.
	<b>Medium Work.</b> Lifting up to <b>50lbs maximum</b> with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 25 lbs.
	<b>Light Heavy Work.</b> Lifting up to <b>75lbs maximum</b> with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 40lbs.
	<b>Heavy Work.</b> Lifting up to <b>100lbs maximum</b> with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 50lbs.

EXPECTED DATE FOR MMI (maximum medical improvement): \_\_\_\_\_

NEXT APPOINTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

MD SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_



# WORKERS' COMPENSATION

is a system of benefits provided by law to most workers who have job-related injuries or illnesses. Benefits are paid for injuries that are caused, in whole or in part, by an employee's work. This may include the aggravation of a pre-existing condition, injuries brought on by the repetitive use of a part of the body, heart attacks, or any other physical problem caused by work. Benefits are paid regardless of fault.

## **IF YOU SUFFER FROM A WORK-RELATED INJURY OR ILLNESS, YOU SHOULD TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS:**

- 1. GET MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.** By law, your employer must pay for all necessary medical services required to cure or relieve the effects of the injury or illness. The employee may choose two physicians, surgeons, or hospitals. Where necessary, the employer must also pay for physical, mental, or vocational rehabilitation, within prescribed limits.
- 2. NOTIFY YOUR EMPLOYER.** You must notify your employer of the accidental injury or illness within 45 days, either orally or in writing. To avoid possible delays, it is recommended the notice also include your name, address, telephone number, Social Security number, and a brief description of the injury or illness.
- 3. LEARN YOUR RIGHTS.** Your employer is required by law to report accidents that result in more than three lost work days to the Workers' Compensation Commission. Once the accident is reported, you should receive a handbook that explains the law, benefits, and procedures. If you need a handbook, please call the Commission or go to the Web site.

If you must lose time from work to recover from the injury or illness, you may be entitled to receive weekly payments and necessary medical care until you are able to return to work that is reasonably available to you.

It is against the law for an employer to harass, discharge, refuse to rehire or in any way discriminate against an employee for exercising his or her rights under the Workers' Compensation or Occupational Diseases Acts. If you file a fraudulent claim, you may be penalized under the law.

- 4. KEEP WITHIN THE TIME LIMITS.** Generally, claims must be filed within three years of the injury or disablement from an occupational disease, or within two years of the last workers' compensation payment, whichever is later. Claims for pneumoconiosis, radiological exposure, asbestosis, or similar diseases have special requirements.

Injured workers have the right to reopen their case within 30 months after an award is made if the disability increases, but cases that are resolved by a lump-sum settlement contract approved by the Commission cannot be reopened. Only settlements approved by the Commission are binding.

For more information, go to the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission's Web site or call any office:

Toll-free: 866/352-3033 Chicago: 312/814-6611 Peoria: 309/671-3019 Springfield: 217/785-7087  
Web site: [www.iwcc.il.gov](http://www.iwcc.il.gov) Collinsville: 618/346-3450 Rockford: 815/987-7292 TDD (Deaf): 312/814-2959

### **BY LAW, EMPLOYERS MUST DISPLAY THIS NOTICE IN A PROMINENT PLACE IN EACH WORKPLACE AND COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW.**

Party handling workers' compensation claims			
Business address			
Business phone			
Effective date		Termination date	
Policy number		Employer's FEIN	

**ILLINOIS FORM 45: EMPLOYER'S FIRST REPORT OF INJURY***Please type or print.*

Employer's FEIN	Date of report	Case or File #	Is this a lost workday case? Yes / No
Employer's name		Doing business as	
Employer's mailing address			
Nature of business or service		SIC code	
Name of workers' compensation carrier/admin.		Policy/Contract #	Self-insured? Yes / No
Employee's full name		Social Security #	Birthdate
Employee's mailing address			Employee's e-mail address
Male / Female	Married / Single	# Dependents	Employee's average weekly wage
Job title or occupation		Date hired	
Time employee began work	Date and time of accident	Last day employee worked	
If the employee died as a result of the accident, give the date of death.		Did the accident occur on the employer's premises? Yes / No	
Address of accident			
What was the employee doing when the accident occurred?			
How did the accident occur?			
What was the injury or illness? List the part of body affected and explain how it was affected.			
What object or substance, if any, directly harmed the employee?			
Name and address of physician/health care professional			
If treatment was given away from the worksite, list the name and address of the place it was given.			
Was the employee treated in an emergency room? Yes / No		Was the employee hospitalized overnight as an inpatient? Yes / No	
Report prepared by	Signature	Title and telephone #	

Please send this form to the ILLINOIS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION 4500 S. SIXTH ST. FRONTAGE RD. SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703-5118 IC45 6/09

By law, employers must keep accurate records of all work-related injuries and illness (except for certain minor injuries). Employers shall report to the Commission all injuries resulting in the loss of more than three scheduled workdays. Filing this form does not affect liability under the Workers' Compensation Act and is not incriminatory in any sense. This information is confidential.

