

Chapter Ind 80

WORKER'S COMPENSATION

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Ind 80.01 Definitions. (1) "Act," "compensation act" or "worker's compensation act" means ch. 102, Stats.

(2) "Department" means the department of industry, labor and human relations.

(3) "Commission" means the labor and industry review commission.

History: 1-2-56; am. Register, April, 1975, No. 232, eff. 5-1-75; r. and recr. Register, September, 1982, No. 321, eff. 10-1-82.

Ind 80.02 Reports. (1) Employers. Employers covered by the provisions of ch. 102, Stats., shall, within one day after the death of an employe due to an accident or industrial disease, make a brief report of this occurrence to the department by telegraph, telephone or by letter. They shall also make a report on a form WC-12 on or before the fourth day after the accident or beginning of a disability from occupational disease upon every accident or disease causing death or a disability which exists beyond the third day after the employe leaves work as a result of the accident or disease. (s. 102.43, Stats.)

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(2) **SELF-INSURED EMPLOYERS AND INSURANCE COMPANIES.** Pursuant to s. 102.37, Stats., for injuries which require the first report of injury set forth in (1), self-insured employers and insurance companies shall:

(a) Make a supplementary report on a form WC-13 on or before the fourteenth day following that on which the injury occurred, a copy of the WC-12 shall be attached to the initial WC-13, and if the wage is less than the maximum wage as defined by s. 102.11 (1), Stats., submit with the form WC-13, wage information on form WC-13a. If wage information is not available at the time the WC-13 is submitted, a notation should be made on the form WC-13 that a form WC-13a will be submitted at a later date. If an employe restricts his or her availability on the labor market to part-time employment and is not actively employed full time elsewhere, a statement confirming this intention must accompany the WC-13a. This statement is not required if the employe is under the age of 16.

(b) Make a report within 7 days from the date that payments are stopped for any reason. If any payments are stopped for a reason other than the employe's return to work, an explanation of such cessation must be provided to the department and the employe. The self-insured employer or insurance carrier shall advise the employe as to what the employe must do to reinstate payments.

(c) Make a report to the department on form WC-13 with a copy to the employe if payment of compensation is changed from temporary total disability or temporary partial disability to a permanent disability basis. Similar report shall be made if temporary disability benefits are reinstated.

(d) Notify the department and the employe immediately if liability for payment of compensation is denied, giving the reason for such denial. The notice shall advise the employe of the right to a hearing before the department.

(e) Make a final report on a form WC-13 when final payment of compensation has been made. A practitioner's report is necessary if temporary disability exceeds 3 weeks or if permanent disability has resulted. Copies of the final WC-13 form and the final practitioner's report must be sent to the employe.

(f) Notify the department and the employe if the employe fails to return to a practitioner for final examination. The notice shall also advise the employe that in order to determine permanent disability, if any, the final examination is necessary.

(g) Submit a final receipt as proof of payment of any increased compensation due to an injured employe.

(h) File a current form WC-13 indicating all payments to date and the periods of time for which these payments were made when submitting a stipulation or compromise, or at the time of hearing.

(i) Make immediate report to the department of any amputation which will require an artificial member or appliance.

History: 1-2-56; am. (1) and (2), Register, October, 1965, No. 118, eff. 11-1-66; am. Register, April, 1975, No. 232, eff. 5-1-75; am. (1), r. and recr. (2), Register, September, 1982, No. 321, eff. 10-1-82.

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(b) Loss of Motion

Fingers	Loss of Flexion	Loss of Use	Loss of Extension	Loss of Use
Distal joint only	10% - 1%		10% - 2%	2%
	20% - 2%		20% - 4%	4%
	30% - 3%		30% - 6%	6%
	40% - 5%		40% - 8%	8%
	50% - 10%		50% - 15%	15%
	60% - 15%		60% - 20%	20%
	70% - 20%		70% - 30%	30%
	80% - 25%		80% - 40%	40%
		100% - 60%	60%	
Middle joint only	10% - 5%		10% - 2½%	2½%
	20% - 10%		20% - 5%	5%
	30% - 15%		30% - 10%	10%
	40% - 25%		40% - 15%	15%
	50% - 40%		50% - 30%	30%
	60% - 50%		60% - 50%	50%
	70% - 60%		70% - 70%	70%
	80% - 70%		80% - 90%	90%
		100% - 100%	100%	
Proximal joint only	10% - 5%		10% - 2½%	2½%
	20% - 10%		20% - 5%	5%
	30% - 15%		30% - 15%	15%
	40% - 20%		40% - 20%	20%
	50% - 25%		50% - 25%	25%
	60% - 30%		60% - 40%	40%
	70% - 35%		70% - 75%	75%
	80% - 40%		80% - 85%	85%
		90% - 100%	100%	

History: Cr. Register, October, 1965, No. 118, eff. 11-1-65; r. and recr. Register, April, 1975, No. 232, eff. 5-1-75; r. and recr. (1), Register, September, 1982, No. 321, eff. 10-1-82.

Ind 80.33 Permanent disabilities; fingertip amputations. In estimating permanent disability as a result of fingertip amputations, amputation of the distal one-third or less shall be considered the equivalent of 45% loss of use of the distal phalanx, amputation of not more than the distal two-thirds but more than the distal one-third shall be considered the equivalent of 80% loss of use of the distal phalanx, and amputation of more than the distal two-thirds shall be considered as 100% loss of the distal phalanx, provided there is not added disability as a result of malformed nail or tissue. In no case shall the allowance be greater than it would have been for amputation of the entire distal phalanx.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1965, No. 118, eff. 11-1-65; am. Register, November, 1970, No. 179, eff. 12-1-70.

Ind 80.34 Loss of earning capacity. (1) Any department determinations as to loss of earning capacity for injuries arising under s. 102.44 (2) and (3), Stats., shall take into account the effect of the injured employe's permanent physical and mental limitations resulting from the injury upon present and potential earnings in view of the following factors:

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- (a) Age;
- (b) Education;
- (c) Training;
- (d) Previous work experience;
- (e) Previous earnings;
- (f) Present occupation and earnings;
- (g) Likelihood of future suitable occupational change;
- (h) Efforts to obtain suitable employment;
- (i) Willingness to make reasonable change in a residence to secure suitable employment;
- (j) Success of and willingness to participate in reasonable physical and vocational rehabilitation program; and
- (k) Other pertinent evidence.

History: Cr. Register, September, 1982, No. 321, eff. 10-1-82.

Ind 80.39 Advance payment of unaccrued compensation. (1) The department may order partial or full payment of unaccrued compensation to an employe or his or her dependents pursuant to s. 102.32 (6), Stats., upon consideration of the following factors:

- (a) The length of time since the injury;
- (b) The total income of the employe or the dependent;
- (c) The income of others in the employe's or the dependent's household;
- (d) The age of the employe or the dependent;
- (e) The other available assets of the employe or the dependent;
- (f) The loss of benefits because of interest credit due to self-insured employer or insurance carrier;
- (g) The purpose for which the advancement is requested;
- (h) The other financial obligations of the employe or the dependent;
- (i) The employment status of the employe or the dependent;
- (j) If the advancement is requested for the purchase of real estate, the cost of the real estate and availability of other necessary financing for the real estate;
- (k) The employe's or the dependent's previous experience in and likelihood of success in a proposed business venture;
- (l) The probable income and security of any proposed investment; and