

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION

A. OUTLINE OF BENEFITS OTHER THAN MEDICAL EXPENSE

In addition to paying your medical expenses for an injury at work, the employer will pay you for part of your lost wages if you are disabled from work for more than seven (7) calendar days because of your work-related injury.

TEMPORARY TOTAL

O.C.G.A. §34-9-261: IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO WORK AT ALL because of your injury, your employer/insurer must pay:

- 2/3 of your average weekly wage with a maximum of \$450 per week if your date of accident was on or after July 1, 2005, and a maximum of \$500 per week if your date of accident was on or after July 1, 2007.
- A minimum of \$50.00 per week, or your actual weekly wage if less than \$50.00 per week. If your accident occurred on or after July 1, 1992, and if your injury is not catastrophic, you are not entitled to this type of benefit for more than 400 weeks. Furthermore, your benefits may be reduced to those allowed by O.C.G.A. §34-9-262 under certain circumstances after you have been released to return to work with limitations or restrictions.

TEMPORARY PARTIAL

O.C.G.A. §34-9-262: IF YOU MUST WORK FOR LOWER WAGES because of your injury at work, your employer/insurer will pay:

- 2/3 of your wage loss (the difference between what you make after your injury and what you made before), with a maximum of \$300 per week if your date of accident was on or after July 1, 2005, and a maximum of \$334 per week if your date of accident was on or after July 1, 2007 for a maximum of 350 weeks from the date of accident.

PERMANENT PARTIAL

O.C.G.A. §34-9-263: IF YOU LOST A PART OR MEMBER OF YOUR BODY or lose the use of a member (such as arm, finger, eye, etc.), you will first receive benefits described above during disability, and then upon return to work or otherwise becoming ineligible for TTD or TPD benefits, you will receive payment for permanent partial disability for a certain number of weeks, based on the percentage of your loss. Multiply the permanent partial disability (%) by the maximum number of weeks listed below to determine the number of weeks you will receive PPD benefits. For example, for a 15% permanent partial disability to an arm, multiply 15% times 225 weeks. The answer of 33.75 represents the number of weeks you will receive income benefits.

| <u>Bodily Loss</u> | <u>Maximum Weeks</u> |
|---|----------------------|
| Arm | 225 |
| Leg | 225 |
| Hand | 160 |
| Foot | 135 |
| Thumb | 60 |
| Index Finger | 40 |
| Middle Finger | 35 |
| Ring Finger | 30 |
| Little Finger | 25 |
| Great Toe | 30 |
| Any toe other than great toe | 20 |
| Loss of hearing, traumatic | |
| One ear | 75 |
| Both ears | 150 |
| Loss of vision of one eye..... | 150 |
| Disability to the body as a whole | 300 |

In all cases arising under the Workers' Compensation Law, any percentage of disability or bodily loss ratings shall be based upon Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment, Fifth Edition, published by the American Medical Association.

O.C.G.A. §34-9-220: The employer is not required to pay benefits for the first seven (7) calendar days you miss work because of your injury, unless you miss 21 consecutive days because of your injury.

O.C.G.A. §34-9-221: If income benefits are paid late, the employer/insurer will pay you a 15% penalty on all accrued benefits. If benefits are paid late after an award has been issued, the employer/insurer will pay you a 20% penalty.

B. RIGHT TO HEARING

If your benefits have been suspended and you believe that benefits were suspended incorrectly, you should request a hearing by sending Form WC-14 to the State Board of Workers' Compensation at the address below. If you need a Form WC-14, please contact the State Board of Workers' Compensation at the phone numbers listed below or visit the website.

STATE BOARD OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION
 270 PEACHTREE STREET, N.W.,
 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1299
 In Atlanta: 404-656-3818
 or: 1-800-533-0682
<http://www.sbwc.georgia.gov>

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT THE STATE BOARD OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION AT 404-656-3818 OR 1-800-533-0682 OR VISIT <http://www.sbwc.georgia.gov>

WILLFULLY MAKING A FALSE STATEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING OR DENYING BENEFITS IS A CRIME SUBJECT TO PENALTIES OF UP TO \$10,000.00 PER VIOLATION (O.C.G.A. §34-9-18 AND §34-9-19).