

Chapter 3: Assessment of Income
(ii) Non-exempt Income
(k) Income Support Benefits and Workplace NL
Benefits

Intent:	To provide information on Workplace NL benefits and their impact on Income Support eligibility.
Act: (if applicable)	13. (1) Prior to making an application for income support and as a condition of eligibility for income support, a person shall pursue all other financial resources available to him or her or his or her spouse or cohabiting partner.
Regulations:	<p>8 (c) "non-exempt income" means income received by an applicant or recipient for which no exemption applies and which is used in determining eligibility but does not include partially exempt income, and which may be obtained by means of</p> <p>(i) payments under the Canada Pension Plan, Old Age Security benefits, Veterans' Allowance, compensation under the <i>Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Act</i>, employment insurance benefits, and pensions to the applicant or recipient or to his or her dependent from other sources,</p>
Overview: (if applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplace NL (formerly known as Workplace Health and Safety Compensation - WHSC) operates a work-injury insurance plan, which provides benefits to workers injured on the job or to their dependents in the case of death of the insured person. • It is a no-fault system, so injured workers cannot sue their employer or another worker for negligence unless a motor vehicle caused the injury. • Once a worker is involved in a workplace injury, it must be reported to the employer immediately and before the employee leaves the worksite. The details for application for Workplace NL benefits and the forms which are required for completion can be found at: Forms Resources WorkplaceNL • Any additional information can be obtained by calling: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ St. John's – 709-778-1000 or toll free @ 1-800-563-9000 ○ Grand Falls-Windsor – 709-489-1600 or toll free @ 1-800-563-3448

- Corner Brook – 709-637-2700 or toll free @ 1-800-563-2772
 - Injured workers who are off work longer than the day of their injury qualify for benefits and the employer must pay the wages for the day the injury occurred. Workplace NL starts paying wage loss benefits from the day following the injury at 80% of the net wages.
 - Workplace NL offers several labour market re-entry services such as:
 - Ease back to work program
 - Modified work program
 - Transfer to an alternative job
 - On the job training
 - Trial work
 - Job search and career exploration
 - Academic upgrading/formal training
 - Self-employment
 - Injured employees who are unable to return to their pre-injury job or a position paying comparable wages may qualify for Extended Earnings Loss Benefits until age 65.
 - In addition to earnings loss benefits, Workplace NL will pay an injured worker a lump sum payment for a permanent impairment.
 - Workplace NL pays transportation expenses as well as the following health care expenses related to the compensable injury, even though these services may be covered by the Provincial Medicare Program (MCP):
 - Doctor's fees
 - Hospital costs
 - Prescribed drugs
 - Physiotherapy
 - Occupational therapy and aids such as crutches and prosthetics
 - If an injured worker disagrees with the decision of Workplace NL, there is both an internal review process and an external review process.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a worker dies because of an injury, there are benefits for the dependent spouse and children, including benefits to cover the transportation of the body and burial expenses.
<p>Policy:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recipients of Income Support benefits who have applied for compensation from Workplace NL must sign the assignment form (generated in CAPS) each time Income Support benefits are provided. • This assignment constitutes the injured worker's consent for Workplace NL to deduct the amount of Income Support benefits that were provided, and to be made payable to the Department from the compensation benefits. The Department's Accounts Receivable Division at provincial office receives the payments, provides the receipts, and sets up the necessary overpayments. • There is no allowable overlap of Income Support benefits and Workplace NL Benefits. • No recoveries will be made by Workplace NL unless the completed assignment form is on file with them. • The Memorandum of Understanding between the Department and Workplace NL permits them to provide the commencement date and weekly rate information for Workplace NL applications to the Eligibility Assurance Division at provincial office. The information will then be made available on the interface tab in CAPS so the local office can take whatever action is deemed necessary. • Client Service Officers will advise the Workplace NL via the assignment form, of the amount of Income Support to be recovered from compensation benefits. If the recipients had already fully or partly refunded money to the Department, these amounts must not be included in the final amount payable to Workplace NL.

Procedure:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Income Support recipient may already be receiving a supplement to his/her earnings. If this individual had to apply for Workplace NL benefits, the Department can continue to provide Income Support benefits on an assignment form (generated in CAPS). Any Income Support benefits that were provided to a client while he/she is pending receipt of Workplace NL benefits, are considered an overlap of Income Support benefits and must be refunded back to the Department. When this occurs, the Client Service Officers must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Forward the original copy of the assignment form (from CAPS) to the Workplace NL immediately after completion to the following address: <p style="text-align: center;">Workplace NL 146 – 148 Forest Road Box 9000 St. John’s, NL A1A 3B8</p> ○ Take copies of the original signed form, provide one to the client and send one to TRIM. • The “Amt. of Compensation” column on the interface will indicate the actual financial benefits paid to a recipient corresponding to the reason for the benefit. It is necessary to complete a separate assignment form for transportation, giving the date of travel, method of travel, and reason for travel as Workplace NL will compensate for any necessary medical, accident related transportation provided to the injured worker, while awaiting or receiving Workplace NL benefits.
Authority Level:	Client Services Officer
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