

Qualification

In order to apply for WD, members must meet all eligibility criteria at the time of their disability. Members MUST be eligible through hours in order to apply for Weekly Disability benefits. Plan Members should contact the Plan Administrator Ellement Consulting Group to confirm eligibility.

A Plan Member is eligible for WD on the day the Plan Member:

- a) Suffers a wage loss; and
- b) Is attended to by a physician, and
- c) Satisfies the definition of Disability.

Remember, your disability must be assessed by a doctor before WD can commence.

A claim for WD benefits must be filed with the Plan administrator Ellement Consulting Group within:

- a) 180 days of the initial assessment by a physician, or
- b) 180 days from the date the Member received notification from WCB that the claim has been denied or terminated because it is non-occupational.
- c) The Member must also apply for Employment Insurance Sickness Benefits (EI) at the same time. The Ironworkers Weekly Disability plan is coordinated with EI Sickness.

If contacted by HHI, eligible members must comply with requests made by health management personnel related to their claim. Benefits are paid pro-rata on the basis of a seven day work week.

Connect with us

For further information, please log in to the secure site www.abironworkers.ca or contact:

- Ellement Phone: 587-405-3196
Toll Free: 1-888-616-3196
- Fax: 1-780-452-5388
- Email: abironworkers@ellement.ca
- Website: www.abironworkers.ca

i Remember, the sooner you apply for WD benefits, the sooner HHI can provide support and assistance for your recovery. Don't delay!

Ironworkers Health & Welfare Trust
of Western Canada Weekly
Disability Benefits



Ironworkers Weekly Disability Program

The Weekly Disability (WD) benefit helps members through periods when they are prevented from working due to disability caused by non-work related illness or accidental injury and experience wage loss.

When an individual is absent from work due to injury or illness, managing through the health care system can present many challenges. Early assistance and quick access to medical services are key in the healing process and thus returning people to their normal day to day and work duties. Homewood Health Inc. (HHI) has been asked to provide our members with this support.

Homewood Health (HHI) is a Canadian, objective, third-party disability management company whose focus is on the quality and timeliness of health care to individuals. HHI employs a wide range of professionals whose role is to provide disability management services during the time you're off work due to an illness or injury. HHI's involvement starts at day fifteen or sooner when they receive your Weekly Disability Benefit Claim Form from Ellement Consulting Group.



Homewood Health assures you that all your medical information will be held in the strictest confidence.

Only information regarding your return to work requirements will be discussed with your employer.

Don't delay! The sooner you apply for Weekly Disability benefits, the sooner HHI can assist you with your treatment and recovery plan.

An HHI Case Manager will assist you, your Doctor, and other health care professionals to ensure that you have an effective treatment and rehabilitation program. Your Case Manager will keep in touch with you throughout the Case Management process.

How do I apply for Weekly Disability Benefits?

When you are not able to work due to an illness or injury, contact Ellement Consulting Group to receive an application and confirm eligibility for benefits.

The application form can be accessed from the website at www.abironworkers.ca or available by mail from the Fund office or Local Union office. The forms can also be picked up from the Ellement Consulting Group office. The member portion of the Weekly Disability claim form must be completed by you, and your doctor must complete the Attending Physician's Statement. These need to be returned directly to Ellement Consulting Group as soon as possible. **If faxed, Ellement Consulting Group will still require the original.**

You only have 180 days from the date of disability in which to apply.

If you are eligible for benefits from the Ironworkers' Health & Welfare Trust Fund of Western Canada you may be eligible for Weekly Disability benefits provided the medical information supports the time off.

If you are going to be off work 15 days or more, your claim is transferred to Homewood Health (HHI). A Case Manager from HHI will contact you by phone, explain HHI's role, and will work with you to support and help you focus on recovery.

The Case Managers work over the phone with you, your doctor, and other medical providers, respecting your confidentiality at all times.

What is the benefit of case management services?

Recovery sometimes takes longer than we expect. Perhaps you and your doctor are not clear as to the reason for your illness. You may not be sure you are receiving the current best practices medical treatment, or you may need a specialist assessment, but the appointment is months away and you are not getting any better while you wait.

In these situations, timely and accurate action plans are necessary to facilitate recovery. The Case Manager will ensure this occurs.

What are my responsibilities?

While receiving this benefit, you are required to participate in a treatment program. **You also need to maintain regular, ongoing communication with your Case Manager, employer, and Ellement Consulting Group.**

If you become totally disabled due to a non-occupational injury or sickness you will receive a disability benefit, provided you are under the continual treatment of a qualified and licensed physician.

Benefit amount

Please refer to the Ironworkers Plan Booklet for the most current information.

The maximum benefits period is 104 weeks if you qualify.

Benefits for any one disability are payable from the 1st day of disability due to a non-occupational accident or sickness. Your benefit will be payable for not more than 104 weeks for any one period of disability.

Weekly Disability benefits will be reduced by any income received from the Alberta Ironworkers Pension Fund.

No benefits are payable during the 15-week period during which Employment Insurance Sickness benefits are paid or are payable to you. You will only receive benefits under this plan during the 15-week period if you provide proof you are not eligible for Employment Insurance Sickness benefits.