



Workers' Compensation Board

NEW YORK STATE
WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD
100 BROADWAY-MENANDS
ALBANY, NY 12241
(877) 632-4996

You were injured at work. What now?

The New York State Workers' Compensation Board has received notice you suffered a workplace injury or illness, so we're preparing a workers' compensation case in your name. You may have already received medical treatment. If you haven't, you should seek medical care as soon as possible.

A Worker's Responsibilities

- You must tell your employer, in writing, when, where and how you were injured. Do this within 30 days of injury.
- *Medical reports are necessary for your case.* Advise your doctors that you have a work-related injury, and give the name of your employer. Do not pay for your care yourself or use other health insurance. Tell your doctor to file reports with the Board and with your employer or its insurance carrier. If your case is disputed, the Board needs a medical report on your injury to begin resolving your claim.

Starting a Case

Once your employer knows of your injury, it must notify this Board. *You should file an employee claim (C-3 form) reporting your injury as soon as possible.* (You **must** notify the Board of your injury or illness within two years.) If you injured the same body part before, or had a similar illness, you must also file a Form C-3.3.

If you haven't already filed a C-3 or C-3.3 (if necessary), there are three ways to do it.

- Visit www.WCB.NY.Gov and click *Workers* to complete the form.
- Call 1-866-396-8314. A Board employee will complete the form with you.
- Complete the enclosed paper forms and mail them to the Board.

Health Care Bills

Do not pay your doctor or hospital. Those bills are paid by the insurer unless the Board disallows your case. If your case is disputed, the providers are paid when the Board decides your case. If the Board decides against you, or if *you don't pursue a case, you will have to pay the doctor or hospital.*

Your employer's insurance covers medically necessary drugs and equipment your doctor prescribes. You're also entitled to carfare or necessary expenses incurred when traveling for treatment. (Get receipts for those expenses.)

Generally, you can choose any doctor authorized by the Board. You can also use occupational health clinics. However, if your employer's insurer has a preferred provider organization to provide care for workers' compensation injuries, you must get your initial treatment from those providers. If that insurer also has a pharmacy or diagnostic network, you must get service within these networks. If the carrier uses these networks, it must also tell you its service providers and how to use them.

Benefits for Lost Wages

You are entitled to a portion of your lost wages if your injury affects you in one or more ways:

1. It keeps you from work for more than seven days;
2. Part of your body is permanently disabled;
3. Your pay is reduced because you now work fewer hours or do other work.

An employer or insurer can accept your claim and begin paying your lost wage benefit promptly. Sometimes, employers and carriers dispute a claim. When that occurs, the Board strives to resolve most cases within 90 days.

You may hire an attorney or licensed representative, who can be helpful with complex or disputed claims, but it isn't required. The Board sets their fees and they will be deducted from your lost wages award. You or your family should not pay anything directly to your attorney or licensed representative.

If your case is disputed, you may receive disability benefits while the case is heard. You'd pay them back out of your lost wages award. To get a DB-450 form, visit www.wcb.ny.gov and click *Workers*; visit a Board office; or call (800) 353-3092.

Help is Available

People sometimes need help getting back to work. Your employer may have a *return to work* program that can get you back to work in light duty or an alternative position while you heal. An injury can also cause family or financial problems. The Workers' Compensation Board has rehabilitation counselors and social workers to help. Call (877) 632-4996 for more assistance.

What's Next?

Your employer or its insurance carrier will contact you if your claim is accepted. When that happens, your treatment will be paid and lost wage benefits begin. If your case is challenged, the Board will notify you about resolving the case. If more information is necessary, the Board will contact you and tell you how to file it.

Important Contact Information

Workers' Compensation Board	(877)632-4996	General_Information@WCB.NY.Gov
Disability Benefits	(800)353-3092	www.WCB.NY.Gov
NYS Bar Association Lawyer Referral and Information Service	(800)342-3661	lr@nysba.org.

Employee Claim

State of New York - Workers' Compensation Board

Fill out this form to apply for workers' compensation benefits because of a work injury or work-related illness. Type or print neatly. This form may also be filled out on-line at www.wcb.ny.gov.

WCB Case Number (if you know it): _____

A. YOUR INFORMATION (Employee)

- 1. Name: _____
First MI Last
- 2. Date of Birth: ____/____/____
- 3. Mailing address: _____
Number and Street/PO Box City State Zip Code
- 4. Social Security Number: _____ - - - - - 5. Phone Number: (____) _____
- 6. Gender: Male Female
- 7. Will you need a translator if you have to attend a Board hearing? Yes No If yes, for what language? _____

B. YOUR EMPLOYER(S)

- 1. Employer when injured: _____ 2. Phone Number: (____) _____
- 3. Your work address: _____
Number and Street City State Zip Code
- 4. Date you were hired: ____/____/____ 5. Your supervisor's name: _____
- 6. List names/addresses of any other employer(s) at the time of your injury/illness: _____

- 7. Did you lose time from work at the other employment(s) as a result of your injury/illness? Yes No

C. YOUR JOB on the date of the injury or illness

- 1. What was your job title or description? _____
- 2. What types of activities did you normally perform at work? _____

- 3. Was your job? (check one) Full Time Part Time Seasonal Volunteer Other: _____
- 4. What was your gross pay (before taxes) per pay period? _____ 5. How often were you paid? _____
- 6. Did you receive lodging or tips in addition to your pay? Yes No If yes, describe: _____

D. YOUR INJURY OR ILLNESS

- 1. Date of injury or date of onset of illness: ____/____/____ 2. Time of injury: _____ AM PM
- 3. Where did the injury/illness happen? (e.g., 1 Main Street, Pottersville, at the front door) _____

- 4. Was this your usual work location? Yes No If no, why were you at this location? _____

- 5. What were you doing when you were injured or became ill? (e.g., unloading a truck, typing a report) _____

- 6. How did the injury/illness happen? (e.g., I tripped over a pipe and fell on the floor) _____

- 7. Explain fully the nature of your injury/illness; list body parts affected (e.g., twisted left ankle and cut to forehead): _____

YOUR NAME: _____
First MI Last

DATE OF INJURY/ILLNESS: ____/____/____

D. YOUR INJURY OR ILLNESS *continued*

8. Was an object (e.g., forklift, hammer, acid) involved in the injury/illness? Yes No If yes, what? _____
9. Was the injury the result of the use or operation of a licensed motor vehicle? Yes No
If yes, your vehicle employer's vehicle other vehicle License plate number (if known): _____
If your vehicle was involved, give name and address of your motor vehicle insurance carrier: _____
10. Have you given your employer (or supervisor) notice of injury/illness? Yes No
If yes, notice was given to: _____ orally in writing Date notice given: ____/____/____
11. Did anyone see your injury happen? Yes No Unknown If yes, list names: _____

E. RETURN TO WORK

1. Did you stop work because of your injury/illness? Yes, on what date? ____/____/____ No, skip to Section F.
2. Have you returned to work? Yes No If yes, on what date? ____/____/____ regular duty limited duty
3. If you have returned to work, who are you working for now? Same employer New employer Self employed
4. What is your gross pay (before taxes) per pay period? _____ How often are you paid? _____

F. MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR THIS INJURY OR ILLNESS

1. What was the date of your first treatment? ____/____/____ None received (skip to question F-5)
2. Were you treated on site? Yes No
3. Where did you receive your first off site medical treatment for your injury/illness? none received Emergency Room
 Doctor's office Clinic/Hospital/Urgent Care Hospital Stay over 24 hours
Name and address where you were first treated: _____
_____ Phone Number: (____) _____
4. Are you still being treated for this injury/illness? Yes No
Give the name and address of the doctor(s) treating you for this injury/illness: _____
_____ Phone Number: (____) _____
5. Do you remember having another injury to the same body part or a similar illness? Yes No
If yes, were you treated by a doctor? Yes No If yes, provide the names and addresses of the doctor(s) who treated you and **COMPLETE AND FILE FORM C-3.3 TOGETHER WITH THIS FORM:**

6. Was the previous injury/illness work related? Yes No
If yes, were you working for the same employer that you work for now? Yes No

I am hereby making a claim for benefits under the Workers' Compensation Law. My signature affirms that the information I am providing is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Any person who knowingly and with INTENT TO DEFRAUD presents, causes to be presented, or prepares with knowledge or belief that it will be presented to, or by an insurer, or self-insurer, any information containing any FALSE MATERIAL STATEMENT or conceals any material fact, SHALL BE GUILTY OF A CRIME and subject to substantial FINES AND IMPRISONMENT.

Employee's Signature: _____ Print Name: _____ Date: ____/____/____

On behalf of Employee: _____ Print Name: _____ Date: ____/____/____

An individual may sign on behalf of the employee only if he or she is legally authorized to do so and the employee is a minor, mentally incompetent or incapacitated.

I certify to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, formed after an inquiry reasonable under the circumstances, that the allegations and other factual matters asserted above have evidentiary support, or are likely to have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigations or discovery.

Signature of Attorney/Representative (if any): _____ Date: ____/____/____

Print Name: _____ Title: _____

ID No., if any: R _____ If Licensed Representative, License No.: _____ Expiration Date: ____/____/____

WCB Case No. (if you know it): _____

To Claimant: If you received treatment for a *previous* injury to the same body part or for an illness similar to the one described in your current Claim, fill out this form. This form allows the health care providers you list below to release health care information about your previous injury/illness to your employer's workers' compensation insurer. The federal HIPAA law (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) says you have a right to get a copy of this form. If you do not understand this form, talk to your legal representative. If you do not have a legal representative, the Advocate for Injured Workers at the Workers' Compensation Board can help you. Call: 800-580-6665.

To Health Care Provider: A **copy** of this HIPAA-compliant release allows you to disclose health information. If you send records to the employer's workers' compensation insurer in response to this release, also mail copies to the Claimant's legal representative. (If no legal representative is listed below, send copies to the Claimant.) Health care providers who release records must follow New York state law and HIPAA.

This release is:

- **Voluntary.** Your health care provider(s) must give you the same care, payment terms, and benefits, whether you sign this form or not.
- **Limited.** It gives your health care provider(s) permission to release only those health records that are related to the previous illness/condition you describe below.
- **Temporary.** It ends when your current claim for compensation is established or disallowed and all appeals are exhausted.
- **Revocable.** You can cancel this release at any time. To cancel, send a letter to the health care provider(s) listed on this form. Also, send a copy of your letter to your employer's workers' compensation insurer and the Workers' Compensation Board. *Note: You may not cancel this release with respect to medical records already provided.*
- **For records only.** It gives your health care provider(s) listed on this form permission to send copies of your health care records to your employer's workers' compensation insurer.

This form does NOT allow your health care provider(s) to release the following types of information:

- **HIV-related information**
- **Psychotherapy notes**
- **Alcohol/Drug treatment**
- **Mental Health treatment** (unless you check below)
- **Verbal information** (your health care providers may not discuss your health care information with anyone)

Any medical records released will become part of your workers' compensation file and are confidential under the Workers' Compensation Law.

A. YOUR INFORMATION (Claimant)

1. Name: _____
2. Social Security Number: _____ - _____ - _____
3. Mailing Address: _____
4. Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____
5. Date of the current injury/illness: ____ / ____ / ____
6. Current injury/illness, including all body parts injured: _____
7. Your legal representative's name and address (if any): _____

Check here if you allow your health care provider(s) to release **mental health care** information.

B. YOUR HEALTH CARE PROVIDER(S) (List all health care providers who treated you for a *previous* injury to the same body part or similar illness. If more than 2 providers attach their contact information to this form.)

1. Provider: _____
2. Phone Number: (____) _____
3. Mailing Address: _____
4. Other provider (if any): _____
5. Phone Number: (____) _____
6. Mailing Address: _____

C. READ AND SIGN BELOW. I hereby request that the health care provider(s) listed above give my employer's workers' compensation insurer copies of all health records related to any previous injury/illness, to all body parts, described above.

Claimant's signature (ink only -- use blue ballpoint pen, if possible.) Date

If the claimant is unable to sign, the person signing on his/her behalf must fill out and sign below:

Your name Relationship to Claimant Signature (ink only -- use blue ballpoint pen, if possible.) Date

Instructions for Completing Form C-3, "Employee Claim"

Please complete this form and send it to the Workers' Compensation Board centralized mailing address listed at the bottom of these instructions. If you need additional help in completing this form, contact the Workers' Compensation Board at 1-877-632-4996. You may also fill this form out online at: <http://www.wcb.ny.gov/>

If you do not have or know your Workers' Compensation Board Case Number, please leave this field blank. It is not required to process your claim. Remember to enter your name and the date of your injury/illness on the top of page two.

Section A - Your Information (Employee):

- Item 1:** Enter your full name, including first name, middle initial, and last name.
- Item 2:** Enter your date of birth in month/day/year format. Include the four digit year.
- Item 3:** Enter your mailing address, including P.O. Box, if applicable, city or town, state, and Zip code.
- Item 4:** Enter your Social Security Number. This is very important to help service your claim faster.
- Item 5:** Indicate the primary contact phone number, including area code. This may include a cell phone number.
- Item 6:** Indicate your gender (Male or Female).
- Item 7:** Board hearings are conducted in English. If you will need a translator to understand the proceeding, the Board will provide one. Check Yes and indicate the language needed.

Section B - Your Employer(s):

- Item 1:** Indicate the employer you were working for at the time you were injured or became ill.
- Item 2:** Enter the phone number for this employer, either a primary contact number or the number for your supervisor.
- Item 3:** Enter the employer's address, including P.O. Box, if applicable, city or town, state, and Zip code.
- Item 4:** Indicate the date you were hired by this employer.
- Item 5:** Enter your direct supervisor's name, whom you report to on a regular basis.
- Item 6:** If you have more than one job, please indicate the names and addresses of all other employers you work for besides the one you were injured at. Please attach a separate sheet if you need more room.
- Item 7:** Check Yes if you lost time from any of your other jobs as a result of your injury or illness; otherwise, check No.

Section C - Your Job on the Date of the Injury or Illness:

- Item 1:** Indicate your current job title or job description (e.g., warehouse worker).
- Item 2:** Indicate your typical work activities for this job (e.g., keeping inventory, unloading trucks, etc.).
- Item 3:** Check the type of job you had.
- Item 4:** Enter your gross pay (before taxes) per pay period.
- Item 5:** Indicate how often you received a paycheck (weekly, bi-weekly, etc.).
- Item 6:** Indicate if you received any tips or lodging in addition to your regular pay. If you did, describe them.

Section D - Your Injury or Illness:

- Item 1:** Enter the date when you were injured or the first date you noticed you became ill. Enter the date in month/day/year format. Include the four digit year. If this is an illness or occupational disease, then skip item 2.
- Item 2:** Enter the time when the injury occurred. Check whether it was AM or PM.
- Item 3:** Indicate the location where the injury/illness occurred, including the address of the building and the physical location in the building where the injury/illness happened.
- Item 4:** Check whether this was your normal work location. If it was not, explain why you were at this location.
- Item 5:** Describe in detail what you were doing at the time of the injury/illness (e.g., unloading boxes from a truck by hand). This explains the events leading up to the injury.
- Item 6:** Describe in detail how the injury/illness occurred (e.g., I was lifting a heavy box off a truck). This should include all people and events involved in the injury/illness.
- Item 7:** Indicate fully the nature and extent of your injury/illness, including all body parts injured. Be as specific as possible. (e.g., I strained my back trying to lift a heavy box. It hurts to bend over or hold even lighter objects now.)
- Item 8:** Indicate if some object was involved in the accident OTHER THAN a licensed motor vehicle. Other objects may include a tool (e.g., hammer), a chemical (e.g., acid), machinery (e.g., forklift or drill press), etc.
- Item 9:** Indicate if a licensed motor vehicle was involved in the accident. If so, check if the motor vehicle involved was yours, your employer's, or a third party's. Include the license plate number (if known). If your vehicle was involved, fill out the name and address of your automobile liability insurance carrier.
- Item 10:** Check if you gave your employer or supervisor notice of your injury or illness. If so, indicate who you gave notice to as well as if it was orally or in writing. Include the date you gave notice.
- Item 11:** Check if anyone else saw the injury happen. If anyone did see it, include their name(s).

Section E - Return to Work:

- Item 1:** If you stopped working as a result of your work-related injury/illness, check Yes and indicate on what date you stopped working. If you have not stopped working, check No and skip to the next section.

Section E - Return to Work (cont):

- Item 2:** If you have since returned to work, check Yes. Also indicate on what date you started working again, as well as if you have returned to your Normal Duties or if you are on Limited or Restricted Duty. (If you have not returned to your full pre-injury or illness work duties, then you are on Limited Duty.)
- Item 3:** If you have returned to work, indicate who you are working for now.
- Item 4:** Enter your gross pay (before tax pay) per pay period for the job you are working at now. Indicate how often you are receiving a paycheck (weekly, bi-weekly, etc.).

Section F - Medical Treatment for This Injury or Illness:

- Item 1:** If you did not receive medical treatment for this injury/illness, check None Received and skip to item 5. Otherwise, enter the date you first received treatment for this injury/illness and complete the rest of this section.
- Item 2:** Check if you were first treated on the job for this injury or illness.
- Item 3:** Check the location where you first received off site medical treatment for your injury or illness. Include the name and address of the facility as well as the phone number (including area code).
- Item 4:** If you are still receiving ongoing treatment for the same injury or illness, check Yes and indicate the name and address of the doctor(s) providing treatment as well as the phone number (including area code); otherwise check No.
- Item 5:** If you believe you already had an injury to the same body part or a similar illness, check Yes and indicate if you were treated by a doctor for this injury or illness. If you were treated by a doctor, indicate the name(s) and address(es) of the doctor(s) whom provided care and **complete and file Form C-3.3 together with this form.**
- Item 6:** If you had a previous injury or illness, check if your previous injury or illness was work-related. If Yes, check if the injury or illness happened while working for your current employer.

Sign Form C-3 in the place provided for "Employee's Signature on page 2, print your name, and enter the date you signed the form. If a third-party is signing on behalf of the employee, that person should sign on the second signature line. If you have legal representation, your representative **must** complete and sign the attorney/representative's certification section on the bottom of page 2.

What Every Worker Should Do in Case of On-The-Job Injury or Occupational Disease:

1. Immediately tell your employer or supervisor when, where and how you were injured.
2. Secure medical care immediately.
3. Tell your doctor to file medical reports with the Board and with your employer or its insurance carrier.
4. Make out this claim for compensation and send it to the Workers' Compensation Board centralized mailing address. Failure to file within two years after the date of injury may result in your claim being denied. If you need help in completing this form, contact the Workers' Compensation Board at 1-877-632-4996.
5. Go to all hearings when notified to appear.
6. Go back to work as soon as you are able; compensation is never as high as your wage.

Your Rights:

1. Generally, you are entitled to be treated by a doctor of your choice, provided he/she is authorized by the Board. If your employer is involved in a preferred provider organization (PPO) arrangement, you must obtain initial treatment from the preferred provider organization which has been designated to provide health care services for workers' compensation injuries.
2. DO NOT pay your doctor or hospital. Their bills will be paid by the insurance carrier if your case is not disputed. If your case is disputed, the doctor or hospital must wait for payment until the Board decides your case. In the event you fail to prosecute your case or the Board decides against you, you will have to pay the doctor or hospital.
3. You are also entitled to be reimbursed for drugs, crutches, or any apparatus properly prescribed by your doctor and for carfares or other necessary expenses going to and from your doctor's office or the hospital. (Get receipts for such expenses.)
4. You are entitled to compensation if your injury keeps you from work for more than seven days, compels you to work at lower wages, or results in permanent disability to any part of your body.
5. Compensation is payable directly and without waiting for an award, except when the claim is disputed.
6. Injured workers or dependents of deceased workers may represent themselves in matters before the Board or may retain an attorney or licensed representative to represent them. If an attorney or licensed representative is retained, his/her fee for legal services will be reviewed by the Board and if approved will be paid by the employer or insurance company out of any compensation benefits due. Injured workers or dependents of deceased workers should not directly pay anything to the attorney or licensed representative representing them in a compensation case.
7. If you need help returning to work, or with family or financial problems because of your injury, contact the Workers' Compensation Board office nearest you and ask for a rehabilitation counselor or social worker.

This form should be filed by sending directly to the address listed below:

**New York State Workers' Compensation Board
Centralized Mailing
PO Box 5205
Binghamton, NY 13902-5205**

Customer Service Toll-Free Number: 877-632-4996