

Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

**And other
compensation
schemes**



Department
for Work &
Pensions

Contents

- 3** What is Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit?
- 4** Can I get Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit?
- 5** Other help available
- 5** Reduced Earnings Allowance
- 5** Retirement Allowance
- 5** Constant Attendance Allowance
- 5** Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance
- 6** How do I claim?
- 6** When and how do I claim?
- 7** Work done as a trainee?
- 7** How are claims decided?
- 7** How much can I get?
- 7** How will I be paid?
- 8** Will Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit affect my other benefits?
- 9** Compensation schemes
- 9** Pneumoconiosis etc (Workers Compensation) Act 1979 Scheme
- 9** The 2008 Diffuse Mesothelioma Scheme
- 10** Call charges

What is Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit?

This is extra money you can get if you're disabled from an accident or disease caused by work.

Accidents

We use 'accident' to mean an incident (or series of incidents) at work which wasn't deliberate and which resulted in personal injury.

If you have an accident at work, you should tell your employer at once – even if the accident doesn't seem serious at the time. Most employers have an accident book. You should record the details of the accident in the book as soon as you can.

If you can't report the accident yourself, you should ask someone to do it for you.

Diseases

More than 70 diseases are covered. Some of the most common are:

- asthma
- chronic bronchitis and emphysema
- deafness
- pneumoconiosis (lung disease from breathing in mineral dust), and
- prescribed disease A11 (formerly known as vibration white finger).

4 Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

Asbestos-related diseases

These diseases are covered:

- pneumoconiosis (asbestosis)
- diffuse mesothelioma
- primary carcinoma of the lung with asbestosis
- primary carcinoma of the lung without asbestosis but where there has been extensive occupational exposure to asbestos in specified occupations
- unilateral or bilateral diffuse pleural thickening.

Can I get Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit?

You must have been injured from an accident while you were working, or got the disease as a result of doing certain types of work, when employed in Great Britain.

Most people will need to have a medical check. This will help us decide how disabled you are and how long your disability may last.

You cannot get Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit if you were self-employed when you did the work that made you ill.

Other help available

Reduced Earnings Allowance

You may get Reduced Earnings Allowance if:

- you can't do your usual job or other work with similar pay because of an accident or disease caused by work, and
- the accident or disease which caused your disability happened before 1 October 1990.

Retirement Allowance

If your Reduced Earnings Allowance is £2 or more a week when you reach State Pension age and you're not in regular employment, we'll replace it with another benefit called Retirement Allowance.

Constant Attendance Allowance

If you get Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit at the full rate and you need daily care and attention, you may get Constant Attendance Allowance.

Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance

If you get one of the two higher rates of Constant Attendance Allowance and you need permanent or constant care and attention, you may also get Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance.

6 Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

How do I claim?

When and how do I claim?

If you think you may be able to get Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit, claim as soon as you can.

If you delay, you may lose some benefit.

We deal with Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit at two benefit centres. Contact the centre covering the area where you live for more information.

Scotland, North West, East of England, London and the South East.



Phone: **0845 603 1358**

Yorkshire and the Humber, East and West Midlands, North East, the South West and Wales.



Phone: **0845 758 5433**

A single textphone number is available wherever you live.



Textphone: **0845 608 8551**

For information on call charges, see page 10.

Work done as a trainee

If you were a trainee and you had an accident or got a disease while doing work-based training, you may be able to get benefit. For more information contact the Analogous Industrial Injuries Scheme.



Phone: **0845 758 5433**

How are claims decided?

We may contact your employer, if possible, to check the jobs you've done.

When we have checked the jobs you've done, we will ask you to go for a medical check. But if we decide that the jobs you've done don't meet the rules, you will not get Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit.

How much can I get?

The amount you get depends on the level of your disability.

We can pay it after 15 weeks (90 days not counting Sundays) from the first day you are disabled by the disease or accident.

How will I be paid?

We pay benefits straight into your account. This is the best way to receive your benefit because you can choose how and when to take your money out of your account. Your account can be with a bank, building society or the Post Office.

8 Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

Will Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit affect my other benefits?

You can get Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit as well as:

- contribution-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Incapacity Benefit
- contribution-based Jobseeker's Allowance, or
- State Pension.

However, Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit can affect how much you or your partner get from other benefits, such as:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Pension Credit
- Housing Benefit
- Council Tax Benefit
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit, or
- War Pension.

Compensation schemes

Pneumoconiosis etc (Workers Compensation) Act 1979 Scheme

We may pay you a lump sum if you have one of the diseases listed below and you can't or haven't taken civil legal action, for example, because your former employer has stopped trading. The diseases covered by the scheme are:

- pneumoconiosis
- byssinosis
- diffuse mesothelioma
- bilateral diffuse pleural thickening, and
- primary carcinoma of the lung when accompanied by asbestosis or bilateral diffuse pleural thickening.

The 2008 Diffuse Mesothelioma Scheme

We may pay you a lump sum if you have diffuse mesothelioma and have not received, or are not entitled to a payment under the 1979 scheme.

This scheme includes:

- self-employed people, and
- people who did not get the disease from their employment (for example, if you washed asbestos-contaminated clothing, or if you lived near a factory where asbestos was used).

You can't get a payment if you were not resident in the UK when the exposure to asbestos happened.

If you can't get a payment under the 1979 scheme for Diffuse Mesothelioma, we'll automatically consider you under the 2008 scheme. You can't get a payment under both schemes.

For more information about both schemes, contact the Pneumoconiosis Workers Compensation Team.



Phone: **0800 279 2322**

Call charges

Charges were correct as of the date on the back of this leaflet.

Calls to **0800** numbers are free from BT land lines but you may have to pay if you use another phone company, a mobile phone, or if you are calling from abroad.

Calls to **0845** numbers from BT land lines should cost no more than 5p a minute with a 13p call set-up charge. You may have to pay more if you use another phone company or a mobile phone, or if you are calling from abroad.

Calls from mobile phones can cost up to 40p per minute, so check the cost of calls with your service provider.

Textphones

Our textphone numbers are for people who can't speak or hear clearly. If you don't have a textphone, you could check if your local library or citizens advice bureau has one. Our textphones don't receive text messages from mobile phones.

We're always looking for ways of improving our leaflets. If you have any comments or suggestions about this leaflet, email us at: **leaflet.feedback@dwp.gsi.gov.uk**

This email address is only used for leaflet feedback. We cannot answer questions about your pension or benefit.

Important information about this leaflet

This leaflet is only a guide and does not cover every circumstance. We have done our best to make sure that the information in this leaflet is correct as of September 2011. It is possible that some of the information is oversimplified, or may become inaccurate over time, for example because of changes to the law.

You can find more information about benefits and pensions online.



For benefits information go to:

www.gov.uk/browse/benefits



For pensions information go to:

www.gov.uk/browse/working/state-pension

This information is available in Welsh and other formats on request:



Phone: **0845 731 3233**

If you can't speak or hear clearly, you can order leaflets from our textphone service.



Textphone: **0845 604 0210**

We aim to provide a high-quality service to all our customers. You can find out more in our customer charter at **www.dwp.gov.uk/about-dwp/customer-delivery/**