



Prescribed Occupational Diseases under the Occupational Injuries Scheme

What is a Prescribed Occupational Disease?

A prescribed occupational disease is one that has developed because of the type of work you do. It also includes any condition resulting from the disease.

For further information and the full list of prescribed occupational diseases log on to www.welfare.ie.

If you are suffering from a prescribed occupational disease, you may qualify for payment under the Occupational Injuries Scheme.

What are the main conditions for benefit?

You may qualify for benefit if:

- you are suffering from certain prescribed diseases,
- you have been employed on or after 1 May 1967 in one of the occupations linked to that disease (see Note 2 below),
- the disease results from the nature of your employment.

Note 1

If you satisfy the first two conditions above, you usually also satisfy the remaining condition.

Note 2

If your occupation is not linked to a prescribed disease (other than deafness) but if you can produce evidence to show that the disease was developed due to your employment, you may also qualify for benefit.

What benefits may I get under the scheme?

Under this scheme you may get:

- Injury Benefit,
- Disablement Benefit,
- Death Benefit, or
- Medical Care Scheme refunds.

Injury Benefit

You may get this weekly payment while you are unable to work as a result of an injury you received or a disease you contracted at work. You may only get this benefit for a maximum of 26 weeks.

Disablement Benefit

You may get this benefit as a weekly or four-weekly pension (or, in some cases, as a lump sum), if you have suffered a loss of physical or mental faculty because of an accident at work or a disease contracted at work. You may normally get this payment when Injury Benefit is no longer paid.

You may get Disablement Benefit from the start of incapacity for the following diseases:

- Byssinosis,
- Pneumoconiosis,
- Occupational Deafness, and
- Occupational Asthma.

You should apply for Disablement Benefit a few weeks before Injury Benefit is due to finish.

Issued by:
Information Services
Social Welfare Services
College Road
Sligo

For more information:

- Log on to www.welfare.ie.
- LoCall Information Line **1890 66 22 44** (from the Republic of Ireland only) or **+353 71 91 933313** (from Northern Ireland or overseas).
- Drop in to your local Social Welfare Office or Citizens Information Centre.

If you are capable of work immediately after the accident or disease, you should claim Disablement Benefit within 3 months of the date of the accident or the onset of the disease.

If you do not you may lose some benefit.

If you claim Disablement Benefit you may have to attend a medical assessment.

Death Benefit

Under the scheme you may get the following Death Benefit payments:

- Widow's, Widower's or Surviving Civil Partner's Pension,
- A Guardian's Payment,
- Dependent Parent's Pension, or
- Funeral Grant.

Medical Care Scheme refunds

You may qualify for relief from certain medical expenses resulting from an accident at work or a disease contracted at work if:

- you are not covered under the Health Acts, and
- the expenses are reasonable and necessary.

For more information on these benefits and schemes, log onto www.welfare.ie.

How do I apply?

For Injury Benefit, go to a doctor and get a First Social Welfare Medical Certificate, which includes an application form. Send the completed form to:

Department of Social Protection

P.O. Box 1650
Dublin 1

Important: Not all work accidents or diseases result immediately in illness or disablement.

To protect your future right to benefit, you should apply for a declaration (**Form DB or OB1**) that your accident or disease occurred at work.

You can get this declaration form from:

Injury Benefit Section

Social Welfare Services
Áras Mhic Dhiarmada
Store Street
Dublin 1

LoCall: 1890 928 400 (from the Republic of Ireland only)
or
+ 353 17043018 (from Northern Ireland or overseas).

Application forms for Disablement Benefit or Death Benefit are available from www.welfare.ie or:

Disablement Benefit Section

Social Welfare Services
Ballinalee Road
Longford

LoCall: 1890 927 770 (from the Republic of Ireland only)
or
+ 353 43 334 0000 (from Northern Ireland or overseas).

Note

The rates charged for using 1890 (LoCall) numbers may vary among different service providers.

This leaflet is intended as a guide only and is not a legal interpretation.