

**Alberta WCB  
Policies &  
Information**

Chapter:

**BENEFITS**

Subject:

**SERVICES FOR WORKERS WITH SEVERE  
INJURIES**

Authorization:

**BoD Resolution 96/10/53**

Date:

**November 26, 1996**

**REFERENCE:**

*Workers' Compensation Act, 1981 (as amended), Part 4,  
Section 83*

**POLICY:**

To help *severely injured workers* become more independent, the WCB provides *support and assistance* in a consistent, timely and cost-effective manner.

The WCB determines the worker's eligibility according to the severity of the injury and the worker's functional needs. Each case is judged on its own merit.

This consolidated policy is effective February 15, 1997 unless noted otherwise. Any exceptions are listed within the specific policy section(s).

**INTERPRETATION**

**1.0 Severely Injured Workers**

A worker is considered severely injured when, as a result of the compensable injury, the worker requires temporary or permanent assistance with communication, mobility, or self-care.

**2.0 Support and Assistance**

Workers with severe injuries may require extensive medical, social, psychological, and vocational support and assistance. Support and assistance is provided in the forms of devices and aids; allowances and services for increasing independence; and skills training. Some examples are:

- communication aids
- home and/or vehicle modifications to assist with the worker's mobility

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**Support and Assistance  
(continued)**

- medical aids necessary for reaching and maintaining reasonable levels of health and safety
- personal care, independence and clothing allowances
- legal costs for a court appointment of a Guardian or Trustee.

The WCB determines and provides the type and amount of assistance required as a result of the compensable injury, based on medical evidence and/or an occupational therapist's recommendation.

**Please see Part II for additional information on the following subjects:**

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